

The Numismatist

FOR COLLECTORS OF COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS AND PAPER MONEY



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**Isaac Scott Hathaway:
An Uncommon Artist**

by Frederick M. Finney



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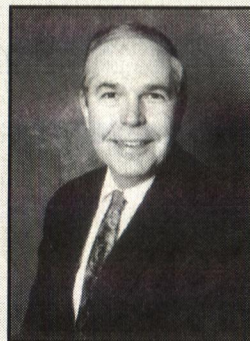
The ANA Sale of the Millennium
August 9-12, 2000
Philadelphia, PA



RSVP: John Pack, Auction Director
1-800-458-4646

Dear Friends,

We are proud to have been chosen to conduct the official auction of the American Numismatic Association annual convention in Philadelphia this August—The ANA Sale of the Millennium. Our relationship with the ANA goes back for many enjoyable years, including the conducting of multiple auctions, writing the two-volume *ANA Centennial History 1891-1991*, writing the "Coins and Collectors" column each month (voted the most-read column in the magazine by an independent survey), serving on the ANA Board of Governors and as president, and this is just a short list! All of us here at Bowers and Merena look forward to making this auction event a truly memorable one.



Q. David Bowers

The coin market is as active as ever and our customers are eager to buy. If you have rare coins, tokens, medals, or paper money for sale, we invite you to tap into the excitement. What we have done for over 30,000 consignors in the past, we can do for you!

For example, in 1999 we have had the pleasure of handling many fine properties including Parts I and II of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, which have brought to auction some of the most important federal currency and gold coins ever offered. Our sale of the gold coins from the treasure ship *S.S. Brother Jonathan*, made numismatic history as the first time such a treasure of United States gold from the ocean was sold *en bloc* in a public auction venue. Our sale of the Walter H. Childs Collection brought to auction the world's most valuable coin, the fabulous Sultan of Muscat specimen of the 1804 silver dollar, which realized an extraordinary \$4,140,000, a new world's record. There is a great demand for fresh material in the marketplace today and it is commanding premium prices. The coin market is very strong, and we look forward to continued strength through the presidential year 2000.

I and the entire Bowers and Merena team look forward to showcasing your collection to its finest advantage and realizing for you top market price in the *ANA Sale of the Millennium*. Thinking of selling? Please give us a call. It may be the most rewarding financial decision you have ever made.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dave".

Dave



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The Numismatist

FEATURES

U.S. COINAGE

Isaac Scott Hathaway: An Uncommon Artist

- 380 The life and work of the designer of the Booker T. Washington and Washington-Carver commemorative half dollars deserve wider recognition.

FREDERICK M. FINNEY

U.S. COINAGE

Crazy for VAMs

- 387 Collectors of Morgan and Peace dollar varieties often are misunderstood. The author offers insight into the allure these items hold for their admirers.

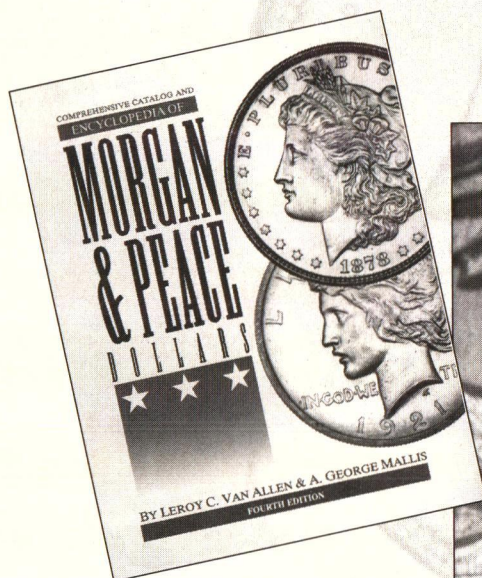
JEFF OXMAN

COLONIAL COINAGE

Standish Barry and His Threepence

- 392 A Baltimore silversmith produced much-needed coins between the time the federal government was established and the new nation's mint began operation.

ARTHUR CRAWMER

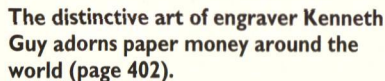


VAMs . . . ya gotta love 'em. See why some collectors are nuts about Morgan and Peace dollar varieties (page 387).

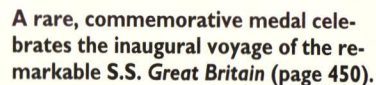


Artist and sculptor Isaac Scott Hathaway put his many talents to work in designing the Booker T. Washington commemorative half dollar (page 380).

ANA MUSEUM



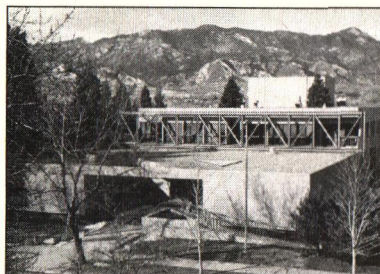
- 362 **From Your President**
by H. Robert Campbell
- 364 **Mint State Views**
- 367 **Letters**
- 369 **Readers' Top Ten**
- 371 **New Issues**
Austria, Hungary, United Kingdom
- 375 **Numismatic Narratives**
- 396 **Coins & Collectors**
by Q. David Bowers
- 399 **Names in Numismatics**
by Pete Smith
- 402 **Notes on Paper**
by Gene Hessler
- 405 **Medieval Musings**
by Arthur M. Pitts III
- 408 **Coins in Cyberspace**
by Alan Herbert
- 410 **The Other Side of the Coin**
by Edward C. Rochette
- 413 **Consumer Alert**
by Kenneth Bressett
- 417 **Bookmarks**
by Nawana Britenriker
- 419 **Membership News**
ANA CHRONICLE
New Column, Service to ANS, Membership Dues
DONATIONS
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
CLUB NEWS
OBITUARIES
- 437 **From One to Seventy**
by David W. Lange
- 439 **The Collector's Edge**
by Don Bonser
- 443 **ANA Authentication Bureau**
by Brian A. Silliman
- 448 **Advertising Rates**
- 449 **Display Classified Ads**
- 450 **Curator's Corner**
by Robert W. Hoge
- 453 **Information for Authors**
- 454 **Auction Insights**
- 458 **Classified Ads**
- 463 **Advertiser Index**
- 464 **Pearlman's People**
by Donn Pearlman



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Mark Jaffee, LM 2251

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Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____

Signature of Proposer (optional) _____

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Dale L. Williams

Reputation, Honesty and Experience...

...are intangibles one cannot buy at any price. I am proud of my reputation in the coin industry as being an honest, experienced dealer. A customer who sold me his rare coin collection wrote the letter below.

If you are ready to sell one coin or your entire collection, please feel free to give me a call. I will "fly to buy" large rare coin collections.

Sincerely,

Dale L. Williams
Numismatic
Advisor and
Broker

January 5, 2000

Mr. Dale Williams
Williams Galleries
P.O. Box 1270
Bozeman, MT 59771

Dear Dale,

As you are aware, I've been collecting coins for over 40 years. Only twice, before now, have I sold any significant quantity of my collections. I sold my gold in 1975 and I sold a large part of my collection, acquired from circulation from the fifties until 1980, in 1980.

This past fall I met and I sold to you a portion of my most valuable uncertified coins. We didn't agree on the grade of all the coins but we made a gentleman's agreement that if the coins graded higher than you thought that you would send me more money. They did, and the gentleman's agreement between two strangers was honored and has cemented a trust and friendship between previous strangers.

I received your settlement check recently and I thank you for your honesty and professional fair dealings.

Respectfully,

Terry F.

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LM 2583

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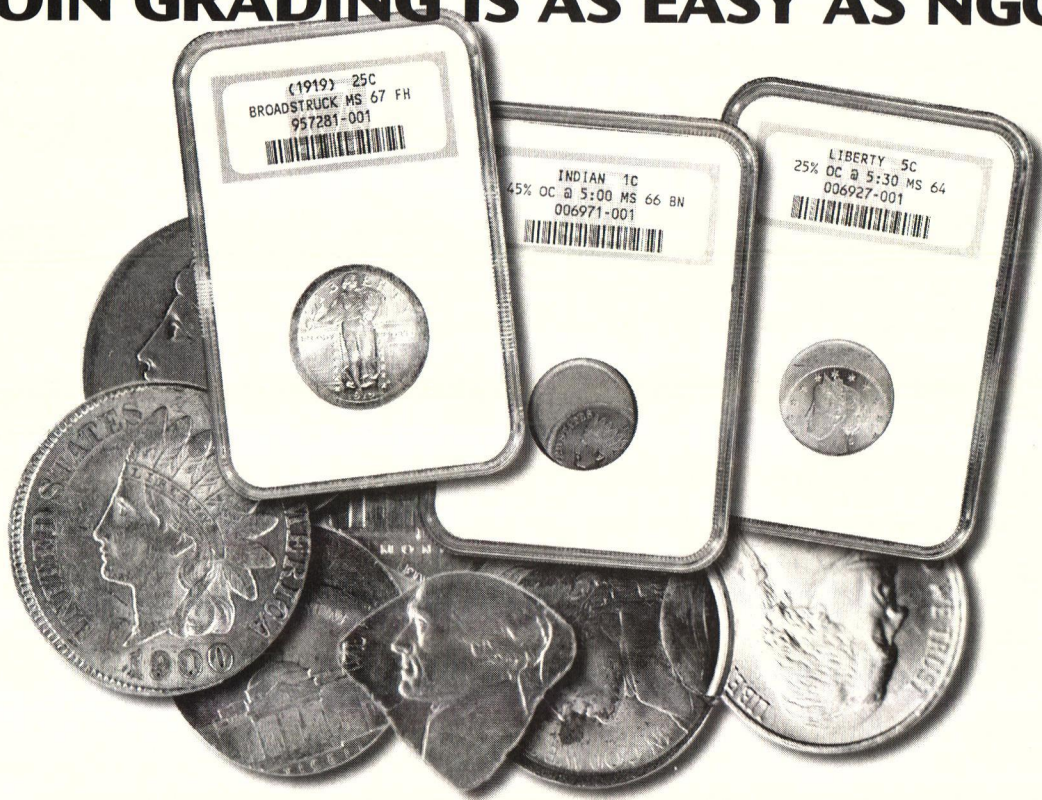
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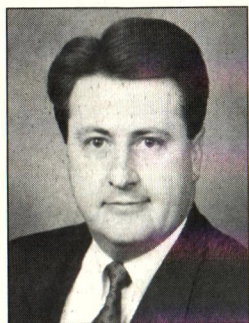
Exciting Times for the Hobby

I AM WRITING this message just after the Long Beach Coin and Collectibles Expo. When going to these shows, dealers try to figure out trends so they can get "in on the action." I'll describe what's hot after I tell you what happened at the Long Beach show.

On Thursday morning, while dealers were setting up and the public was waiting for the show to open, ANA Governor Patti Jagger and I presented a \$1,000 check from our Association's Reward Fund to Ron Kurtz and Dave Henderson of Whittier Coin Company in Whittier, California, for their help in recovering a large coin collection stolen from the Reverend William J. Fulco, a professor of archaeology at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles and an ANA life member. Their honesty and quick thinking led to the arrest and conviction of a former university employee.

After Ron and Dave received a round of applause from all the dealers in the room, a second noteworthy event took place. They signed over the check to the ANA for use in YN programs. They decided that if any money came from recovery of the collection, the right thing to do was not to profit from it, but to give it back. Temptation never was a factor, though they said the collection could have been "bought for pennies on the dollar."

The Long Beach Expo also featured two fantastic displays of numismatica. The first was a "Ship of Gold" displaying treasure from the U.S.S. *Central America*, a steamship that went down off the Carolina coast in 1857 carrying dozens of gold bars and thousands of gold coins.



ANA President Bob Campbell (LM 3663) started collecting coins as a boy in Utah. He and his wife, Carol, now own and operate All About Coins, Inc., a shop in Salt Lake City that he frequented as a youngster. A professional numismatist by trade, he remains a collector at heart. Before his election to the Board of Governors, Campbell served as national coordinator of the ANA's Representative Program.

FROM YOUR
PRESIDENT
.....
BY H. ROBERT CAMPBELL

Today it is valued at around \$100 million. The exhibit basically replicated part of the ship, with portholes for viewing stacks of gold bars and coins recovered from 8,500 feet below the ocean surface.

The other featured exhibit consisted of a hundred Series 1934 \$10,000 United States Federal Reserve notes that dealer Jay Parrino recently bought from the Binion's Horseshoe Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. Valued at about \$10 million, it was sold in Long Beach to a collector/investor from Silicon Valley. I understand Jay got an offer he couldn't refuse and let it go earlier than he had planned.

Even with all this excitement, the talk among coin dealers at the show was the U.S. Mint's 50 State Quarters™ Program, particularly how much the coins have increased on the wholesale mar-



At the Long Beach show, ANA Governor Patti Jagger and I presented a reward check for \$1,000 to Ron Kurtz (second from right) and Dave Henderson (second from left) of Whittier Coin Company.

ket. Uncirculated P- and D-mint Delaware and Pennsylvania quarters were selling for several times face value, and even circulated coins were bringing more than face. Uncirculated rolls of New Jersey quarters from either mint sold a bit lower than these states, and Georgia and Connecticut issues were slightly above face. In my coin shop, and from what other dealers tell me, dozens of new and old collectors are coming in to buy holders and the quarters they can't find in change.

Now is the best time to get these people turned on to the ANA and your local clubs by giving them information on where they can join the finest coin organization on the planet.

H. Robert Campbell

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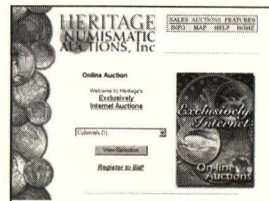


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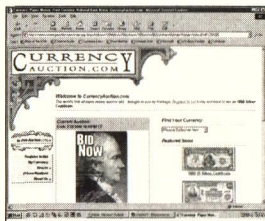


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Postal and Fractional Currency

IN 1861, WITH the impending secession crisis near, much of the United States' gold, silver and even copper coinage began to disappear from circulation as a result of tremendous hoarding and the outright melting of coins. Due in part to fear and uncertainty, the dwindling supply of coinage occurred in response to two economic factors: a high percentage of precious metal in coins, and a high inflation rate.

During the Civil War, neither the North nor the South was spared economic hardship. The large amounts of paper money issued to finance the war effort resulted in too much money chasing too few goods—inflation. Precious metals and specie became dear, and coins were melted. Hence, the United States was primed for panic as these factors combined to cause the intrinsic value of the coins to exceed their face value.

U.S. Treasurer General Francis E. Spinner realized the coin shortage was causing considerable strain on businesses. The various stopgaps being employed in the marketplace were not satisfactory; merchants issued scrip, tokens, and eventually postage envelopes and encased postage stamps. Without established guidelines or government sanction, confusion ran rampant.

By far, postage stamps afforded the most viable solution. Backed by the government and intrinsically valuable, stamps were widely recognized and became an acceptable medium of exchange. On July 17, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln officially sanctioned the use of postage as currency.

Predictably, an immediate run on stamps ensued. Spinner responded with a proposal for a larger size, non-adhesive postage currency note. Spinner's prototypes consisted of stamps pasted on small pieces of cardboard, with the motto of the United States Treasury. Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase approved the impromptu concept, and the first issue of U.S. Postage Currency followed in 5-, 10-, 25- and 50-cent denominations. Comprised of five series, U.S. Fractional Currency, as it later came to be known, eventually also included denominations of 3 and 15 cents.



Issued from 1862 to 1876, U.S. Postage and Fractional Currency provides today's collector with many interesting varieties. The advanced hobbyist knows of hundreds of fractional varieties (designated by "Milt" numbers, the system utilized in the ultimate specialty reference, Milton

R. Friedberg's *Encyclopedia of United States Fractional & Postal Currency*). An intermediate specialist collects the 136 varieties designated by "Friedberg" numbers (the system established by the broader-based paper money reference, Robert Friedberg's *Paper Money of the United States*). Finally, the novice collector of fractionals concentrates on 24 basic varieties, differentiated by the design of each issue.

However, as a collector specializes, detailed references become increasingly harder to find. In the case of U.S. Postage and Fractional Currency, only one major reference has been written in the last 20 years.

In response to the paucity of information on the subject, a group of hobbyists formed the Fractional Currency Collectors Board (FCCB) in 1983. The FCCB promotes interaction between collectors and provides a vehicle for sharing hard-to-find information and references. Currently claiming more than 300 members, the organization places an emphasis on member support, providing each new recruit with beginning reference materials, as well as various educational opportunities. The FCCB annual meeting, held in Memphis, Tennessee, at the International Paper Money Show each June, offers just such an information-gathering experience.

To learn more about the Fractional Currency Collectors Board and the world of fractionals, contact FCCB Membership Chairman Bill Brandimore, 610 Fifth St., Wausau, WI 54401. •

Thomas O'Mara, a convertible securities trader residing in New Jersey, collects United States postage and fractional currency, as well as New Jersey obsolete bank notes and scrip. He is a member of the Fractional Currency Collectors Board, American Numismatic Society, Civil War Token Society, Society of Paper Money Collectors, and the Ocean County (New Jersey) Coin Club.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the ANA or the editorial staff.



ALEXANDER THE GREAT PORTRAIT GOLD



Last August, it took only two weeks to sell over 200 of the coins shown above. Fortunately, we were able to restock. These Greek gold staters, about 8.25 grams of near pure gold, from the cities of Kallatis and Tomis, were struck about 85 B.C. The reverse has the name of Lysimachus, the treasurer and general of Alexander's army, around an enthroned goddess Athena in full armor. EF or better, only \$877.

GOLD FOR BRUTUS



"Et tu, Brute?"

We were also fortunately able to purchase a large hoard of gold staters, bequeathed by the Scythian King Koson's widow, from northern Thrace, to the war chests of Brutus and his republican allies in their struggle against Octavian (Augustus Caesar). These staters of near pure gold weigh about 8.5 grams and depict a procession scene copied directly from one of Brutus' silver denarii which he struck as a moneyer in 54 B.C., early in his political career. The reverse depicts the Roman eagle holding a wreath of victory in one claw, similar to Roman Republic silver and gold motifs. The monogram BR for Brutus appears to the left of the obverse figures and the dead king's name, KOSON, beneath. The middle figure is the ancestor Lucius Junius Brutus, who overthrew the last king of Rome in 509 B.C. and established the Republic. Q. Caepio Brutus (Marcus Junius Brutus) was the descendent and senator who plotted the assassination of his friend, Julius Caesar, whose personal ambition was crushing the republican government. After the fateful Ides of March, civil war broke out with Brutus, Cassius and the Republicans pitted against an alliance of Julius Caesar's nephew, Octavian, and Marc Anthony. Brutus held office in Macedonia, adjacent to the kingdom of Koson. This gold hoard was doubtless struck 43/42 B.C. as military payroll for the Republican army, which was defeated at Philippi in 42 B.C. Brutus fell on his own sword after the loss.

Blazing about uncirculated, \$755. Premium centering, strike, and larger spread planchet, also blazing about uncirculated, \$1,177.



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LETTERS

Another Milestone for Bowers' Numismatic Time Line

In the January issue of *The Numismatist*, Q. David Bowers contributed an interesting article entitled "A Numismatic Time Line" (p. 33). However, I thought one event should be added—something most American collectors have little knowledge of.

In 1898 the United States was embroiled in the Spanish-American War and subsequently became a world power with a colonial empire. One of our possessions was the Philippine Islands.

In 1903, as a result of Congressional action, the United States Mint at both Philadelphia and San Francisco began production of coins for the Philippine Islands. The reverses of all these coins were struck with "United States of America."

Roy E. Bonjour, ANA 77061

Sacagawea Dollars: Everything Old Is New Again

The United States Treasury might have announced, "Here it comes, ready or not." The new "Golden Dollar" has been sent to Federal Reserve banks for distribution to financial institutions everywhere. Thus, it will gradually make its way into the hands of the public, whose reaction is expected to range from eagerness to eccentric reluctance.

It recalls the time, in 1929, when the size of the dollar bill was substantially reduced, from $7\frac{7}{16} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$ to $6\frac{5}{16} \times 2\frac{11}{16}$ inches. This was the first change since 1861. A later change produced the present $6\frac{1}{8} \times 2\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

In some places, demand for the new bills far exceeded initial supply, while elsewhere skeptical cashiers actually refused to accept the new currency. Mansfield, Ohio, banks reported a "run" on the new money, with some customers demanding as many as 100 of the new bills "to keep as souvenirs." In Toronto, Ohio, some people "who got what looked like cigar coupons in change . . . [discovered] that they had the newest size paper currency."

Meanwhile, in New York City, "men who obtained specimens of the new currency left the banks with great delight and kept pulling them out and looking at them as they walked along the streets or rode in subways." (New Yorkers wouldn't dare nowadays.) Indeed, they became "centers of attention" at stores and other gathering places.

Tellers and clerks, responsible for large quantities of currency, pointed out that "until all the old bills are redeemed, confusion and added work will result [from] handling two different sizes of notes." One authority estimated it would take two years to replace all old, large bills with the smaller ones.

Officials cited familiar advantages for the new-sized bills, including more convenient storage and handling; crisper, stronger paper, with resultant longer life; greater protection against counterfeiters; and an estimated savings of \$1.5 million a year in production costs. Indeed, women especially were said to have liked the smaller notes because they took up "less space in their small purses."

My very good friend, the late Frank Zerkle of St. Paris, Ohio, worked at the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing for many years. I met him soon after arriving in

Washington, D.C. During some of our memorable visits, he would occasionally mention activities at "the Bureau," as it was popularly called. Alas, I never paid much attention. If only I could call him back now for a long interview. As Emerson said so well, "The years teach much that the days never knew."

A Richmond, Virginia, *Times Dispatch* columnist declared that the size of money "makes comparatively little difference. What the vast majority of us are concerned about is how to accumulate more of it against the all too familiar rainy day."

Bernard R. DeRemer

Oll Coomes' Dime Novels

After much searching, I found an article about Iowa farmer and author Oll Coomes. His "double dime" book—pictured in Michael Marotta's article "Lost Opportunity: The Double Dime" (September 1999, p. 1024)—inspired me to scour local archives.

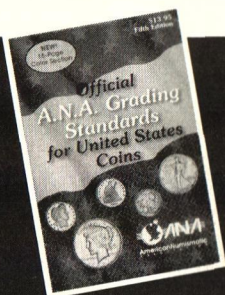
Reprinted in the December 26, 1986, issue of the *Atlantic News-Telegraph Farm Monthly*, the 1931 article describes Coomes as a "producer of Indian yarns, which contained humor of a sort, as well as thrills." Also featured are front-page images from *Beadle's Half Dime Library*, a magazine for which Coomes wrote. Of note is the coin in the upper, lefthand corner of the *Beadle's* cover—an 1877 Seated Liberty dime.

Phil Chinitz, ANA 45879

Collector Proposes Golden Commemorative Series

The obvious popularity of the 50 State Quarters™ should be a wake-up call for members of Congress.

The current commemorative program is a disappointment. Coins are



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We have seen that actual circulating commemoratives, celebrations of our history and culture, can work at face value. Instead of the current, high-priced commemorative program, I suggest the new dollar coin be considered as a vehicle for commemorative coinage that will be accessible to all.


With no disrespect to the Sacagawea design (I personally find it quite attractive), the new "Golden Dollar" would make an excellent commemorative. Such a program would keep the coin in the eyes of the public and contribute to its acceptance as a replacement for the paper dollar. Also,

because of its relatively high face value (in comparison to the quarter), the dollar coin would be less likely to be extensively hoarded.

Therefore, I propose a regular commemorative series using the Golden Dollar. The coins would have a common reverse, with the designs on the obverses changing every six months. If the coins are to benefit some organization, a small portion of the Mint's seigniorage (as well as a larger portion from proof issues) can be set aside for this. It's worth thinking about.

Allan G. Latawiec, ANA 119502

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the ANA or the editorial staff. THE NUMISMATIST reserves the right to edit all material for length and clarity.



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Readers' Top Ten

IN RESPONSE TO our request in the January 2000 issue, readers cast their votes for their favorite articles and columns in the 1999 volume of *The Numismatist*. The top 10 articles (in descending order) are noted below.

Emerging as the three most popular columns (also in descending order) were "Pearlman's People" by Donn Pearlman, "Consumer Alert" by Kenneth E. Bressett, and "The Other Side of the Coin" by Edward C. Rochette.

1 A Friendly Wager with Ulysses S. Grant by James M. Kindler (April 1999)

A two-bit coin won from Ulysses S. Grant in a bet on a horse race resurfaces after more than a century.

2 Henry Morgan: From Pirate to Statesman by Thomas H. Sebring (September 1999)

A \$10 coin honors a man who was one of Jamaica's early statesmen and national heroes—and a brutal and rapacious pirate.

3 James Earle Fraser: Legacy of the West by William E. Pike (November 1999)

Best known as the designer of the Indian Head/ Buffalo nickel, Fraser was forever influenced by his youthful days in the American West.

4 Securing Your Coins at Home by Steven Ellsworth (October 1999)

By following some tried-and-true guidelines, you can make your home a safer haven for you, your family and your collection.

5 A Love of Coins and "Neat Stuff" by Stephen L. Bobbitt (August 1999)

Professional numismatist and past ANA President Kenneth Hallenbeck admits his weakness for collecting just about everything.

6 De Francisci: Artist of Peace by Joseph A. Scafetta Jr. (May 1999)

Sculptor/medalist Anthony de Francisci used his art to honor American veterans and promote patriotism in his adopted homeland.

7 Banks for the Memories by Gaylen G. Hayes (January 1999)

Though sometimes tough to find, coin banks with numismatic themes can be inexpensive and fun to collect.

8 The Great Stroller Caper by Thomas Messinger (July 1999)

For one collector, a scheme to cash in on the precious-metals boom of the late 1970s proved more trouble than it was worth.

9 Washington \$5 Gold Preserves a Legacy by Marilyn A. Reback (December 1999)

Issued on the bicentennial of George Washington's death, the 1999 \$5 gold coin helps assure his personal history is available for study.

10 The Diana Memorial Coin: A Personal View by Graham Dyer (February 1999)

The striking of coins honoring the late Princess Diana of Wales prompts reflections on Great Britain's history of commemorative coinage. •

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NEW ISSUES

UNITED KINGDOM:

Centenary Crown Honors Queen Mother

A £5 coin struck by the British Royal Mint pays special tribute to Britain's Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother on the 100th anniversary of her birth on August 4, 1900. A copper-nickel version is available in an illustrated presentation folder; gold and silver proof crowns will be struck in limited mintages later this spring.

Born at Glamis Castle in Scotland, Lady Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon was the ninth child of the fourteenth Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne. When she married Prince Albert, there was no thought he would ever be king. However, after his father died and his elder brother Edward VIII abdicated, Albert was crowned King George VI on May 12, 1937. For her grace, charm and public service during times of war and peace, she has long been loved and revered by the British people.

The reverse of the centenary crown shows the Queen Mother with the dates 1900-2000 and the denomination. The Queen Mother faces left, while her daughter Queen Elizabeth II faces right on the coin's obverse. Both portraits are the work of Ian Rank-Broadley.

The copper-nickel £5 weighs 28.28g. There is no mintage limit, the coin is not included in either the United Kingdom proof or uncircu-



lated sets. The Queen Mother Centenary crown is priced at \$16.50. To order, contact the British Royal Mint, Cheyenne, WY 82008-0031,



Actual Size: 38.61mm

On the occasion of the 100th birthday of Britain's admired and beloved Queen Mother, the British Royal Mint has produced a celebratory £5 coin.

telephone toll free 800/221-1215, or visit its web site at www.royalmint.com. Please add \$4.95 postage and handling per order.

AUSTRIA:

Coin Combines Titanium and Silver

The Austrian Mint broke with tradition when striking its first coin of the year 2000. A bimetallic issue that is part of the international "Masterpiece Millennium Collection" marketed by the British Royal Mint, the 100 schilling combines a silver outer ring with a center of titanium. This is the first time titanium has been used by a major national mint for legal-tender coinage.

Interpreting the theme "electronic communications," the obverse features a view of the earth with the legend MILLENNIUM 2000, surrounded by various means of communication, including satellites, radio and television transmitters, and radar dishes. The reverse shows a computer chip, the heart of the revolution in communications.

Mintage is limited to 50,000 proof coins. Collectors in the



Not Actual Size

A forward-looking theme, electronic communications, was selected for Austria's first coin of 2000. The bimetallic 100 schilling has a silver outer ring and a titanium center.

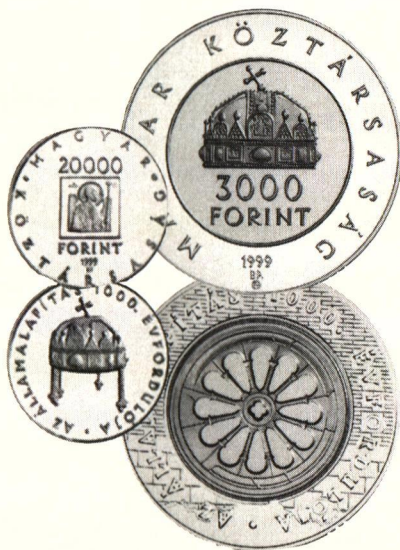
United States and Canada can purchase the 2000 Communications coin for \$39.50 (CAN\$61.25) from Euro Collections International, telephone toll-free 888/904-5544, fax 250/658-1455 or E-mail info@eurocollections.com.

HUNGARY:

Coins Celebrate the Nation's Millennium

To mark Hungary's 1,000th year as a nation, the National Bank of Hungary has issued a 3,000 forint of .925 fine silver with a gold-plated center; and a 23.7kt-gold proof 20,000 forint.

Each coin features the crown of St. Stephen, Hungary's national symbol and emblem of state. The obverse of the 20,000 forint adapts from the crown an enamel picture of St.



The crown presented by Pope Sylvester to Hungary's first king, St. Stephen, is represented on two coins issued for the nation's millennium.

Michael the Archangel (the Archangels Michael and Gabriel on the crown are reminders of the divine source of the ruler's power). The reverse of the 3,000 forint features the rose window in the chapel of the royal palace in Esztergom. The palace is the birthplace of St. Stephen and Hungary's first capital.

The gold proof 20,000 forint is limited to 3,000 and is priced at \$195. The bimetallic 3,000 forint is limited to 5,000 each in proof (\$49.50) and uncirculated (\$42.50). Contact the Hungarian Mint's North American Representative, P.O. Box 1071, Clifton, NJ 07014, telephone toll free 800/421-1866, fax 973/471-1062. Please add \$4.50 per order for shipping and handling; New Jersey residents also should add 6-percent sales tax.

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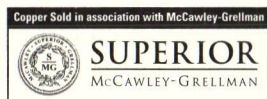
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NUMISMATIC NARRATIVES

Denver Mint Welcomes "Golden Dollar"

On February 25, United States Mint Director Philip N. Diehl joined Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colorado) at a ceremonial striking of the first "Golden Dollar" to be produced at the U.S. Mint in Denver, Colorado. Also attending were Jay Neal, Denver Mint plant manager; Glenna Goodacre, designer of the coin's Sacagawea obverse; and Hobby Hevewah, representing the Shoshone-Bannock tribe.

Local business people and other guests were invited to strike their own dollars to commemorate this landmark event. ANA Executive Director Edward C. Rochette struck a piece on behalf of the Association.

"This is one of the most successful coin launches in the Mint's history," Diehl commented. "One of the reasons is the 50 State Quarters™ Program, which has transformed the hobby of coin collecting."

Diehl said the Denver and Philadelphia Mints together will produce 150 million dollar coins per month, with a total of 1 billion in the first year. The current rate of production, 5 million coins per day, barely keeps up with public demand.

The Mint has delivered more than 180 million new dollars for circulation since January, an amount equal to three years' bank demand for the Susan B. Anthony dollar coin (which the new dollar replaces). The coins initially were released in January in boxes of Cheerios® breakfast cereal through a promotion with General Mills. The new dollars are



On February 25, officials and guests gathered at the United States Mint in Denver to mark production of the first Sacagawea dollars to bear the "D" mintmark. Among those in attendance were (from left) U.S. Mint Director Philip Diehl; Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell; Luis Garcia, president of the Denver chapter of the American Federation of Government Employees; Glenna Goodacre, designer of the coin's obverse; Hobby Hevewah, representing the Shoshone-Bannock tribe; and Jay Neal, plant manager of the Denver Mint.

available at financial institutions, and Wal-Mart and Sam's Club stores nationwide, and through the U.S. Mint web site at www.usmint.gov.

ANS Announces Staff Changes

The American Numismatic Society (ANS) recently announced the resignations of Dr. Alan M. Stahl, curator of medieval coins and of medals; Dr. Carmen F. Arnold-Biucchi, the first Margaret Thompson Curator of Greek coins; Dr. William E. Metcalf, chief curator and curator of Roman and Byzantine coins; and John M. Kleeberg, associate curator of modern coins and currency. At this time, Dr. Michael L. Bates, who oversees Islamic and South Asian coins, is the only curator remaining.

This exodus follows the Society's November 1999 offer of voluntary "early out" packages for curatorial and security staff, stemming from an

order to cut the organization's operating deficit. "We are greatly saddened by [the] departures," said ANS Executive Director Ute Warthenberg. All curators were given the opportunity to stay for at least another year.

Arnold-Biucchi's chair is endowed and, consequently, unaffected by recent budget cuts. The Society also hopes to endow the chair for modern numismatics. The ANS Council is seeking replacements for both curatorial positions.

Though the Society's staff has been reduced, its resources have expanded. The Johns Hopkins University recently donated The Garrett Numismatic Archives to the ANS Library. A rare source of 19th- and early 20th-century numismatic history, the acclaimed Garrett family collection was meticulously recorded on 3,000 cards that include detailed descriptions, provenance and purchase prices. The archives also contain

some 1,000 letters as well as the original notebooks kept by famous collectors T. Harrison Garrett and his son John Work Garrett.

For more information on these and other ANS topics, contact the society at info@amnumsoc.org.

1926-S Cent Sets Price Record

The finest known 1926-S cent recently set a record sales price of \$36,000 for a non-error Lincoln cent, according to Independent Coin Grading Company (ICG) of Englewood, Colorado. The coin's owners—Las Vegas coin dealers James Halfon of Washington Rare Coin Center and David Schweitz of David Schweitz Coins—sold the rare cent, graded Mint State-65 Red by ICG,

to Tom Mershon of California.

Halfon commented, "This 1926-S [has] great color, a good strike and minimal marks. For myself, it was a pleasure to handle such a coin. I know . . . the coin's new owner is just as excited and proud."

For more details, contact ICG, telephone 303/221-4424 or E-mail jamestaylor@icgcoin.com.

Sale of Autographed Dollars to Benefit American Indian Arts

Randy'L Teton, the Native American model whose image as Sacagawea graces the new United States dollar, has agreed to sign a limited number of presentation cards holding uncirculated specimens of the coins. The autographed cards will ac-

company every three-year subscription to *Native Peoples Magazine*, a publication dedicated to the sensitive portrayal of the arts and lifestyles of "the Native Peoples of the Americas." For each \$44 subscription, the magazine will make a donation to the Institute of American Indian Arts Museum. To learn more about this offer, as well as the magazine's mission, visit www.nativepeoples.com or telephone 800/999-9718.

Lincoln Bicentennial Cent a Possibility in 2009

On February 25, President William Jefferson Clinton signed into law the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act. This legislation officially establishes a 15-member committee with a mandate to study




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and recommend ways the nation can celebrate the 200th anniversary of President Lincoln's birth in 2009. This includes considering the feasibility of minting a Lincoln Bicentennial cent.

Commission members will be appointed by the President; the speaker and the minority leader of the House of Representatives; and the majority and minority leaders of the Senate. The governors of Lincoln's states of residence—Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky—will recommend one member each. The commission is required to submit its report to Congress by February 12, 2004.

Congress created a similar commission in 1906 for the centennial of Lincoln's birth. That commission's findings ultimately led to the minting of the Lincoln cent and the construction of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

struction of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Collectors Universe Acquires Bowers Empire

Collectors Universe of Newport Beach, California, has announced its acquisition of the assets of the three, New Hampshire-based companies owned by Q. David Bowers and his long-time business partner Raymond N. Merena: Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc.; Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc.; and Bowers and Merena Research, Inc. Total consideration was approximately \$16 million, with a million shares of Collectors Universe common stock and \$8 million in cash. Bowers will continue to lead the Bowers and Merena operations.

Maryland Quarter Launched in March

The seventh issue in the United States Mint 50 State Quarters™ Program was released into circulation on March 13. Honoring Maryland, the 25-cent piece features the historic Maryland State House and the legends MARYLAND 1788 and THE OLD LINE STATE. The design was suggested by William Krawczewicz, a local graphic artist.

The Mint will strike more than a billion Maryland quarters, with production split between the Philadelphia and Denver facilities. The mintage is 50-percent higher than that of the 1999 Delaware quarter, the first coin in the series. The next issue, scheduled for release in May, commemorates South Carolina. •



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	COIN DATE	MINTMARK	COUNTRY	MS or PF	DENOMINATION	VARIETY Variety description—O Check below for VarietyPlus service	DECLARED VALUE	CERTIFICATION # for ReGrade/CrossOver
1						O	\$	
2						O	\$	
3						O	\$	
4						O	\$	
5						O	\$	
6						O	\$	
7						O	\$	
8						O	\$	
9						O	\$	
10						O	\$	
11						O	\$	
12						O	\$	
13						O	\$	
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TOTAL TIER/SERVICE \$ _____

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signed _____

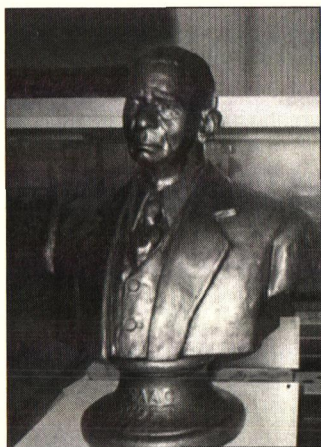
check #: _____ date _____

**TOTAL INSURED
VALUE**

Isaac Scott Hathaway: An Uncommon Artist

The life and work of the designer of the Booker T. Washington and Washington-Carver commemorative half dollars deserve wider recognition.

by Frederick M. Finney
ANA 150757



Isaac Scott Hathaway (1874-1967), sculpted here by his wife Umer, was well respected for his busts and masks of famous figures.

ISAAC SCOTT HATHAWAY was known and respected as a teacher as much as an artist. He belonged to that generation of black educators who sought to inspire their young students to study and excel professionally and served as a role model and inspiration to Afro-Americans of all ages.

His career as an artist and educator spanned some 50 years, beginning as a journeyman craftsman, selling his wares as an independent businessman, working briefly as a government employee and later devoting his life to teaching and research. He was well known and respected during his lifetime for his work with ceramics, in particular for his life masks of famous figures. It was his reputation in this field that attracted the attention of sponsors of the Booker T. Washington Memorial and Washington-Carver commemorative half dollars.

Hathaway was not part of the "sculptor/engraver" establishment favored by the United States Mint and the commemorative coin design committees, nor was he a politician, as some writers have inferred. He was simply the right person at the right time to design the two coins.

The Artist's Early Years

BORN IN LEXINGTON, Kentucky, on April 4, 1874, Isaac Scott Hathaway later enrolled in Chandler Junior College there. In 1894 he moved to Boston, where he took up sculpture and dramatics at the New England Conservatory of Music art department. In 1895, to support himself and his studies, he taught elocution and stone carving.

Hathaway was a skilled artist who took advantage of opportunities to

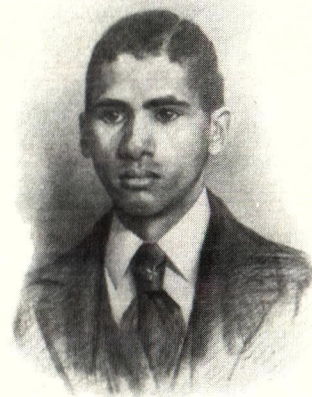
HATHAWAY BEGAN HIS collegiate career in 1915 at Branch Normal College in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where he introduced the art of ceramics.

.....

further his training and enlightenment. These included stints at the Cincinnati Art Academy and the ceramic department of Pittsburgh Normal College.

From 1897 to 1902, he taught art at Keene High School in Lexington, Kentucky. In 1902 he opened a studio—Isaac Hathaway and Company, manufacturers of “Plastic Parts of the Human Anatomy for School and Medical Use.” In 1907 he moved to Washington, D.C., and began to sculpt busts, including one derived from the life mask he made of Booker T. Washington that same year. His business was associated with the National Afro Art Company, which peddled his busts door-to-door. Hathaway’s business failed, and he later opened a studio in a basement retail space at 1234 “U” Street.

On March 15, 1912, Hathaway married Ettie Ramplin of South Boston, Virginia. Unfortunately, his bride died later that year, shortly after giving birth to their son, Elsmer.



A Legacy of Education

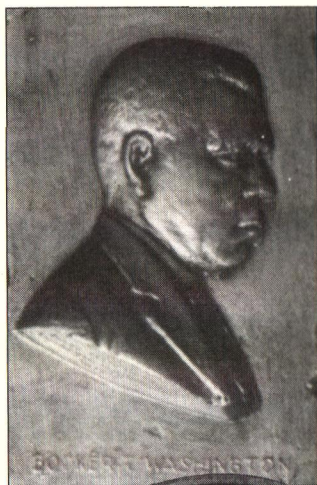
HATHAWAY BEGAN HIS collegiate career in 1915 at Branch Normal College in Pine Bluff, Arkansas (now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff), where he introduced the art of ceramics. (In 1926 he married Umer G. Porter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Porter of Pine Bluff.) Between 1932 and 1935, he taught ceramics at Georgia State Industrial College at Savannah (now Savannah State University) and Bishop College in Texas.



In 1937 Hathaway joined the faculty of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, where he headed the ceramics department. During his early years there, he developed a close personal and professional relationship with chemist Dr. George Washington Carver.

In 1949 Hathaway became curator of the Art Department at Alabama State College (now Alabama State University) in Montgomery. While at the school, he received honorary degrees from the College of Scriptures and Jarvis Christian College. In 1952 the National Christian Missionary Convention cited him for outstanding achievements.

Young Hathaway moved to Washington, D.C., in 1907, and later opened a studio, where he was sketched (top) by Afro-American artist Henry O. Tanner. He enjoyed teaching pottery to students of all ages, including these nursery school children.



HATHAWAY ASKED TO be considered for the honor, based on his experience in ceramics, and especially because . . . he had prepared a life mask of Washington.

.....

Isaac Scott Hathaway retired in 1963, and died on March 12, 1967, at his home in Tuskegee, Alabama. He was 92 years of age.

The Booker T. Washington Design

THE COINAGE ACT of August 7, 1946, provided for a silver commemorative half dollar to honor Booker T. Washington, proceeds from which were earmarked to construct a memorial at his Virginia birthplace. Behind the effort were Virginians who, although not directly associated with Tuskegee, admired Washington's principles.

Hathaway initially was not considered to design the 1946 Booker T. Washington commemorative half dollar. Many expected that Charles Keck would create the coin, apparently because of the "success" of his portrait of Senator Charles Glass for the Lynchburg (Virginia) Sesquicentennial half dollar.

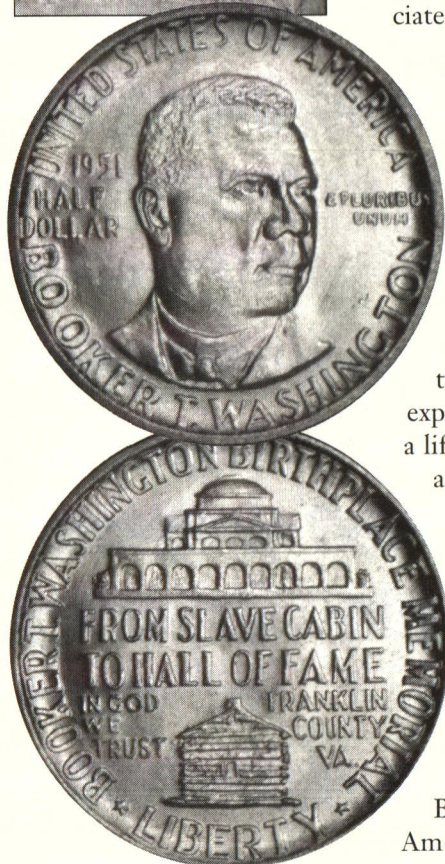
According to Don Taxay's *Illustrated History of U.S. Commemorative Coinage*, S.J. Phillips, head of the Booker T. Washington Memorial Birthplace (sponsor of the coin), provided Keck with a photograph from which to work. Keck's drawings were approved by the Mint, but then Hathaway entered the picture. Hathaway asked to be considered for the honor, based on his experience in ceramics, and especially because in 1907 he had prepared a life mask of Washington. Hathaway's obverse was chosen, but he was asked to submit a new model for the reverse.

Hathaway's obverse likeness of Washington is adapted from one of the educator's favorite photographs. All available evidence suggests that the reverse reflects the wishes of the sponsor, showing a "Hall of Fame" building at the top and a log cabin at the bottom, with the inscription FROM SLAVE CABIN/TO HALL OF FAME.

The Washington-Carver Half Dollar

THE ACT OF August 7, 1946, was amended in 1951 "to commemorate the lives and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver, two great Americans, there shall be coined by the director of the Mint . . . a number of silver 50-cent pieces equal to the number of 50-cent pieces authorized by the Coinage Act of August 7, 1946."

Hathaway's Washington-Carver obverse shows the conjoined busts of the two honorees. Carver's likeness is similar to a 9 x 6 x 2-inch, plaster plaque created by Hathaway around 1940.



Actual Size: 30.61mm

Hathaway captured Booker T. Washington on a plaque before creating the commemorative half dollar.

... THE BUREAU OF the Mint and some collectors became opposed to the whole matter of commemorative issues. No more were struck until 1982.

.....

Marketing the Coins

THE MARKETING OF the coins was marked by confusion—over what a commemorative meant, to whom it was to be marketed, and what political motives were involved. These things had nothing to do with the designer, or even numismatics. The coins were put forth to raise money for some Virginia promoters who had, at first, the simple objective of constructing a memorial to Booker T. Washington.

This was an era of racism on the one hand and racial pride on the other. The Booker T. Washington and Washington-Carver commemoratives took on a different life as the promoters and others went to black churches and fraternal organizations, as well as non-black organizations, seeking orders or commitments to buy the coins . . . all as an expression of racial pride. Soon, there was a consensus that millions of the coins were going to be sold. Many dealers, including Aubrey Bebee of Omaha, Nebraska, became distributors, ordering large quantities of both issues.

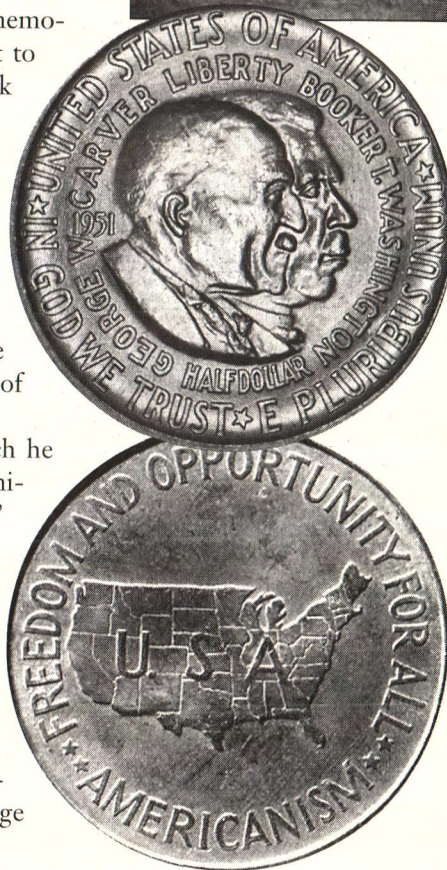
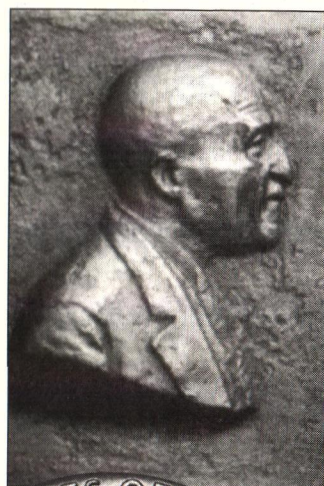
The broader politics of the nation entered the picture, including viewpoints hostile to the project. From this came the added baggage of having the reverse of the Washington-Carver piece changed to include a map of the nation—with the stated purpose of “fighting communism among Negroes.”

Some critics sharply put down Hathaway’s reverses (over which he had no control) and the Washington-Carver obverse. One prominent writer called the latter piece the “ugliest coin ever minted.” (However, I find the Booker T. Washington Memorial half dollar to be the nation’s most striking and beautiful silver coin.) There is no evidence that Hathaway was impacted in any way by the coinage saga. He was paid \$500 for each design and received a trip to San Francisco.

The Booker T. Washington and Washington-Carver issues were not successes for the Mint. In fact, the Treasury, the Bureau of the Mint and some collectors became opposed to the whole matter of commemorative issues. No more were struck until the George Washington issue of 1982.

The “Arkansas Project”

A COMPILATION AND exhibit of Hathaway’s work resulted from a joint effort (referred to herein as the “Arkansas Project”) of the Department of Arts of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB)



Actual Size: 30.61mm

Hathaway’s profile of Carver on the half dollar is similar to that on a plaque he created around 1940 (top).

THE SELECTION OF Hathaway to design the Booker T. Washington and Washington-Carver commemorative half dollars was consistent with his life's work.

.....

Ebony Topaz, Inc., of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Over a period of decades, Curator Kendrick Moore has amassed an extensive collection of archival material and collected works.

The Arkansas Project prepared the only known catalog of Hathaway's creations, and produced a lecture series and study guides for children. The Project's traveling photographic exhibit, currently available for circulation in Arkansas only, is composed of 24, free-standing

panels, each measuring 2 x 6 feet. The permanent home of the display is the Isaac Scott Hathaway-John Howard Hall at UAPB.

The most prominent item on exhibit is Hathaway's plaster of abolitionist and statesman Frederick Douglass. The stylized bust, sculpted in 1919, is a life-sized portrayal of Douglass, editor of *The North Star*, an anti-slavery newspaper published before and during the Civil War.

For a half century, Isaac Scott Hathaway was an inspiration to the people he served and the art that represented them (a point emphasized to

me in the 1950s by John E. Nolen, one of my teachers at Academy High School in Troy, Alabama). The selection of Hathaway to design the Booker T. Washington and Washington-Carver commemorative half dollars was consistent with his life's work.

Acknowledgments

THIS REVIEW WAS prepared from contemporary accounts; archival records; a catalog/brochure of Hathaway works published by the Department of Arts, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, and Ebony Topaz, Inc., of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and my scrapbooks of numismatic news from the 1950s. I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Professor Henri Linton of UAPB; Kendrick Moore of Topaz;



The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Fine Arts Center is named in honor of Isaac Scott Hathaway and John Howard, longtime head of the institution's Department of Art.

Mintages of Booker T. Washington Memorial and Washington-Carver Memorial Half Dollars

.....

DATE	MINT		
	PHILADELPHIA	DENVER	SAN FRANCISCO
Booker T. Washington Memorial Half Dollar			
1946*	1,000,546	200,113	500,279
1947	100,017	100,017	100,017
1948	8,005	8,005	8,005
1949	6,004	6,004	6,004
1950	6,004	6,004	512,091
1951	510,082	7,004	7,004
Washington-Carver Memorial Half Dollar			
1951	110,018	10,004	10,004
1952	2,006,292	8,006	8,006
1953	8,003	8,003	108,020
1954	12,006	12,006	122,024

* Far too many 1946 specimens were struck; an unknown number of Philadelphia coins were melted because they did not sell.

Daniel T. Williams, archivist at the Hollis Burke Frissel Library, Tuskegee University; and my wife, Gladys. •

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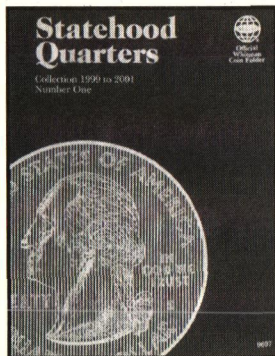
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A native of Troy, Alabama, Frederick M. Finney now lives and works in Dayton, Ohio. He began collecting as a teenager in 1955 and has written extensively on coins and paper money for nearly 20 years. His articles have appeared in NUMISMATIC NEWS, COINS magazine, COINAGE, COIN WORLD, BANK NOTE REPORTER and THE NUMISMATIST.

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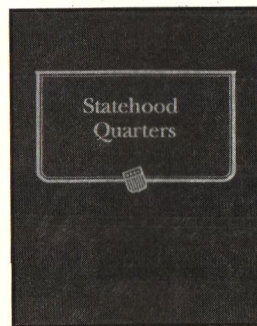
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Crazy for VAMs

U.S. COINAGE

Collectors of Morgan and Peace dollar varieties often are misunderstood. The author offers insight into the allure these items hold for their admirers.

IT ISN'T EASY being a "VAM" collector. My friends call me crazy. Even most of my numismatic colleagues cannot understand what I'm raving about most of the time, or why my eyes light up and my pulse races at the prospect of finding an 1888-O "Hot Lips" or a 1901-P "Shifted Eagle." Sure, it would be nice if my family and comrades shared my excitement, but I might as well be trying to explain my numismatic passion in Martian. As such, I'd like to try to facilitate communication here and now.

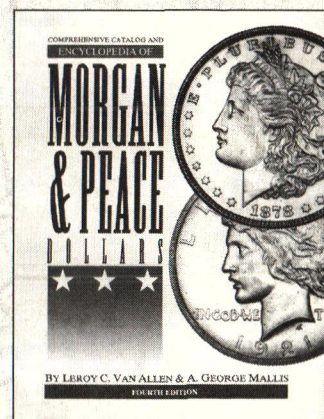
Mommy, Where Do VAMs Come From?

FIRST OF ALL, the objects of a VAM collector's interest are United States silver dollar die varieties. The term "VAM" is an acronym derived, curiously enough, from the last names of the authors of the foremost reference on the topic: *Comprehensive Catalog and Encyclopedia of Morgan & Peace Dollars* released in 1992 by Leroy C. Van Allen and A. George Mallis. (This is a revised edition of their self-published 1971 collaboration, *Guide to Morgan and Peace Dollars*.)

Hobbyists not suffering from VAM addiction may speculate about the future of more "solid" items, such as slabbed Morgan dollars, or wax poetic about the guaranteed profit potential of "mainstream" numismatics. "What's wrong with a PCGS-slabbed 1880-S in MS-65 condition?" they might ask. The VAM collector cannot help but respond (while pulling a December 12, 1985, *Greysheet* from the top drawer), "Well, I seem to recall that MS-65 '80-S Morgans traded hands for about \$500 in 1985!" While leaning back and stretching, the collector adds ever so casually, "But today I can buy 'em all day long for less than a hundred bucks."

Even your favorite coin dealer probably is not the least bit interested in VAMs—unless he, too, has contracted this particular collecting bug.

by Jeff Oxman
ANA 115546



"VAM" is derived from the last names of authors Leroy C. Van Allen and A. George Mallis, experts in the Morgan and Peace dollar arena.

Adapted from the Winter/Spring 1994 issue of
THE SOCIETY OF SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTORS JOURNAL.

MOST DEALERS KNOW little . . . about silver dollar die varieties and are unable to devote a great deal of time to learning about the intricacies of VAM collecting.

.....

The "King of VAMs," this 1878-P (VAM 44) displays spectacular tripling of the leaves and cotton bolls in Liberty's headdress.



Most dealers know little or nothing about silver dollar die varieties and are unable to devote a great deal of time to learning about the intricacies of VAM collecting. Anyway, the market is too narrow to make it profitable. It's much easier for a dealer to meet his overhead costs by purchasing coins over the counter and selling at a nice profit . . . VAMs? Who needs 'em!

Evolution to Revolution

TO PUT THINGS in perspective, remember that for much of the 19th century, hobbyists did not even collect United States coins by mintmark. It may be hard to believe, but prior to the 1893 publication of *Mint Marks*, A.G. Heaton's renowned treatise on branch mints, an uncirculated 1889-P silver dollar generally was as desirable as an 1889-CC! Back in the 1800s, no one could have predicted that mintmarks would assume the importance they have in the current numismatic market. Now, for a top-end specimen, just the presence of those two little letters ("CC") on the reverse makes a tremendous difference in value, with prices ranging from more than \$200 for a Gem Brilliant Uncirculated (BU) 1889-P to more than \$200,000 for a Gem BU 1889-CC!

And if mintmarks were not even a consideration for the 19th-century collector, imagine their reaction to the prominent and influential role of

... MANY MODERN-DAY hobbyists are not aware that die varieties now rank among the most valuable and sought-after coins in every 20th-century series.

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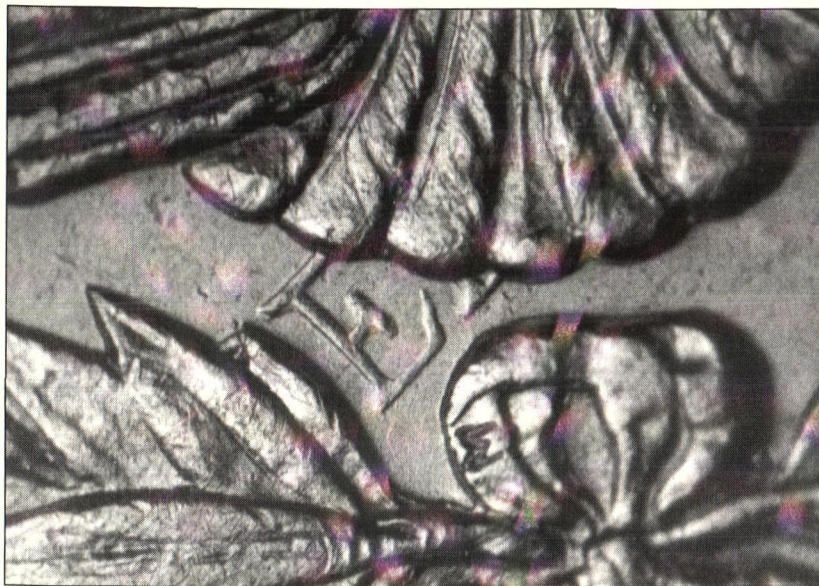
die varieties in late 20th-century numismatics. Even many modern-day hobbyists are not aware that die varieties now rank among the most valuable and sought-after coins in every 20th-century series.

Are you shaking your head in disbelief? Oh ye of little faith, simply look at the 1969-S doubled-die Lincoln cent. A few years back, I sold an Extremely Fine specimen for \$7,500! Compare this to the historic "King of Lincolns," the 1909-S VDB, which is worth only a few hundred dollars in the same condition. In the Buffalo nickel series, the price of the 1916/1916 in MS-63 condition has stampeded to \$20,000.

And it's not just cents and nickels. The same holds true for 1942/1-P and 1942/1-D Mercury dimes, which are among the top five dates in that series. And lastly, don't forget the 1918/17-S Standing Liberty quarter, which is a \$7,000-plus item in BU condition. Even when it comes to modern proof sets, the "no mintmark" groups are valued at several hundred times their non-variety counterparts.

New Momentum in the New Millennium

THE PERTINENT POINT is this: Numismatics is clearly moving toward increasingly specialized knowledge. Today's hobbyist is inundated with specific information about every conceivable segment of numismatics,



Considered the ultimate Morgan dollar clashed die, this 1891-O (VAM 1A) has a clearly discernible "E" on the reverse (as well as parts of the "B" and "R"), transferred from the word LIBERTY on the obverse. The letter is so clearly raised and distinct that it almost appears to be an intentional part of the design.



The 1888-O "Hot Lips" variety is the top obverse doubled die in the Morgan dollar series. Liberty's nose, lips and chin show dramatic doubling. This piece is scarce in About Uncirculated and above, with only one or two Brilliant Uncirculated specimens known.

THE EMPHASIS ON more and more detailed information helps build the almost fanatical excitement and enjoyment within specialized segments of the market . . .

from early coppers to late-date commemoratives. The emphasis on more and more detailed information helps build the almost fanatical excitement and enjoyment within specialized segments of the market. As evidence, witness the growth and longevity of specialty coin clubs. These organizations have continued to boom, even during economic slumps when the overall market declines.

It follows that if the rapid accumulation of detailed knowledge about every coin series is the wave of the future, the new millennium could ignite a wildfire of interest in Morgan and Peace dollar varieties. The momentum already is under way. The 1887/6 overdates from Philadelphia and New Orleans have been recognized officially only since the mid 1970s. (Yes, it was that recent.) Yet, like the heavy hitters of other series, these pieces now are superstars among key-date silver dollars. Would you believe the 1887/6-O currently is valued at \$23,000 to \$26,000 in Mint State (MS)-65 condition? Likewise the 1882-O/S is \$25,000 in MS-65! And, more importantly, both now are considered a necessary part of any non-variety set of Morgan dollars.

Something's Got a Hold on Me

MOST HOBBYISTS WOULD agree that gone are the days when pocket change could provide a rare-date Lincoln cent or a Buffalo nickel. So where is the adventure? The answer is "cherrypicking" (purchasing a choice coin from a dealer's stock or a collector's holdings when the owner is ignorant of its special desirability). With his or her specialized knowledge of a particular area of numismatics, a cherrypicker can and does find great deals on rare pieces.

Although collecting VAMs can be a lucrative pursuit, financial gain rarely is the primary motivation for VAM devotees. Rather, it is the quest for discovery that holds the allure for many. The Society of Silver Dollar Collectors receives dozens of parcels weekly, each containing pieces the sender thinks are new rarities. Most submissions are not ground-breaking discoveries—but a few are! And that's what keeps VAM collecting interesting—the thrill of the hunt!

Jeff Oxman, a coin collector since the 1950s, began his research on Morgan and Peace dollars in the late '70s. A decade later, he co-founded the Society of Silver Dollar Collectors and today is a recognized authority on VAMs. Oxman also has co-authored three major texts about United States silver dollars and is involved with several other projects, including a series of attribution guides defining the "Hot 50" Morgans and "Top 50" Peace dollars.

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Standish Barry and His Threepence

A Baltimore silversmith produced much-needed coins between the time the federal government was established and the new nation's mint began operation.

by Arthur Crawmer
ANA 124585

A SHORTAGE OF coins was a continual problem for immigrants to the English colonies, affecting their ability to purchase goods and placing them at a disadvantage in trading their products with London merchants. The problem continued after colonists won independence from Great Britain. The Articles of Confederation failed to decide the question of coinage, leaving it for the states to resolve. Although the Constitution empowered Congress to coin and regulate the value of money, the new government was confronted with many major issues and was understandably slow to act on coinage production.

Two Maryland silversmiths took matters into their own hands. At his Annapolis workshop in 1783, John Chalmers produced silver threepence, sixpence and shillings, which apparently circulated. About 1784, in Baltimore Town, another silversmith—Standish Barry—plied his trade and later produced an enigmatic, silver threepence.

Barry the Businessman

STANDISH BARRY WAS born in Baltimore Town on November 4, 1763. We know little of his formative years, but in early 1777, he was listed among soldiers sent to subdue troublesome loyalists in Somerset and Worcester Counties. He also served an apprenticeship to Baltimore silversmith and clockmaker David Evans.

On November 26, 1784, Barry advertised in the *Maryland Journal* as an engraver, watchmaker and clockmaker, working at a shop on the north side of Market Street. On June 20, 1785, the *Maryland Gazette* announced that Barry and his partner,



Shown here in a portrait by an unknown artist, silversmith Standish Barry also had a long and honorable military career.

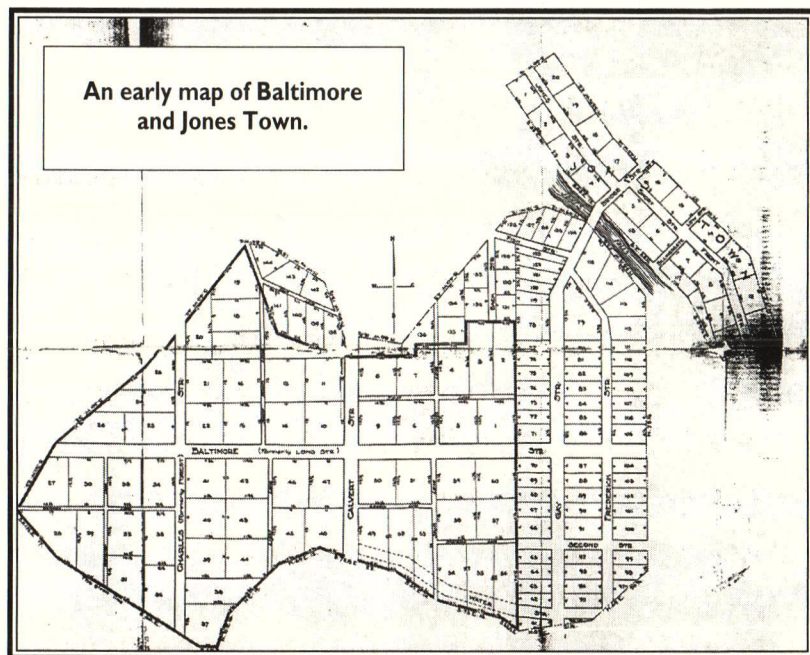
... "ABOUT SIXTY JEWELERS, silversmiths and watch-makers, under the direction of Standish Barry marched in the Grand Procession."

.....

Joseph Rice, had moved their business to the northwest corner of Market and Calvert Streets. On November 8 of the same year, Barry and Rice announced in the *Gazette* that they made and repaired gold and silver work. Notice of the dissolution of the Rice-Barry partnership appeared in the June 21, 1787, issue of the *Gazette*.

The *Baltimore Directory* for 1796 places Barry in business at No. 92 Baltimore (Market) Street. From 1800 to at least 1808, he worked and resided at 20 North Gay Street. According to J. Hall Pleasants and Howard Sill's *Maryland Silversmiths, 1715-1830*, Barry made and sold silver from about 1784 until 1810; his pieces usually were excellent in workmanship and design, although perhaps a little heavy at times. The authors estimate that today his work is less frequently found than his 25 years in the business would lead one to expect. They also indicate that most of his important pieces seem to have been made before 1800.

Beginning around 1800, say Pleasants and Sill, Baltimore silversmiths used an eagle or eagle's head to indicate the purity of their silver. Barry is known to have used an eagle's head punch, in addition to initial or name punches. An account in *American and Commercial Advertiser* of the 1809 4th of July celebration states that "about sixty jewelers, silversmiths and watch-makers, under the direction of Standish Barry marched in the Grand Procession." Pleasants and Sill contend this denoted an effort by the Baltimore silversmith guild to present a unified front and guarantee the purity of their silver, an effort that led the General Assembly of Maryland to pass an act in 1814 to fix and regulate the quality of silver plate. Baltimore is unique among American communities in early regulation of the quality of silver plate made or sold in the city, and in adoption of a system of marking silver to attest to its purity.



“... HE HAD A heart as insensible to fear as it was filled with those generous emotions which are characteristic of a genuine patriot . . . ”

.....

Barry the Soldier

STANDISH BARRY ALSO had a long and honorable military career. A review of his military service in the November 27, 1844, issue of the Baltimore newspaper *American*, stated:

Though but a stripling at the time, [Barry] joined the gallant band of patriots who [rallied] around Washington, toward the close of our revolutionary struggle, and contributed to our liberty and independence . . . At the time of the Whiskey Insurrection he was first Lieutenant of the Independence Blues, and upon this occasion, when reviewing the troops prior to discharging them, the soldier like appearance of Col. Barry attracted the attention of Gen. Washington, and elicited from him a compliment from him no less flattering than well deserved.

For many years Col. Barry commanded the Independent Blues, a company always distinguished for its respectability and discipline. In the war of 1812, Col. Barry was a Major in the Fifth Regiment of Baltimore Volunteer Militia, and was engaged in the battles of Bladensburg and North Point, in each of which engagements he had a horse shot [from] under him . . . To say to the citizens of Baltimore that Col. Barry behaved with coolness and intrepidity in each of those engagements, is superfluous, for all who knew him, do know, that he had a heart as insensible to fear as it was filled with those generous emotions which are characteristic of a genuine patriot . . . In stature, Col. Barry was upwards of six feet high, martial and commanding in appearance, straight as an arrow, with an eye as keen as an eagle, and a port and carriage which gave assurance that he was every inch a soldier—one of those men whom nature intended for the pursuit of arms . . . Subsequent to the war he commanded the Fifth Regiment of Infantry, and First Volunteer Rifle Regiment, at different periods—and it is but doing sheer justice to his memory to say, that no officer more than he, that ever stood at the head of a Regiment, had a faster hold upon the affections and respect of his men.

In 1798 the militia in Baltimore Town was expanded because of concern about possible war with France. At a meeting of the Sans Culottes militia (later changed to the Baltimore Independent Blues, a company in the Fifth Regiment of the Maryland Militia), Standish Barry was chosen as a lieutenant.

As noted, Barry was involved in the Battle of North Point. In a letter published in the September 24, 1814, issue of *Niles Weekly Register*, Brigadier General Stricker, commander of the third brigade of the Maryland Militia, stated that Major Barry of the Fifth Regiment gained his highest approbation. In one of those strange coincidences of history,

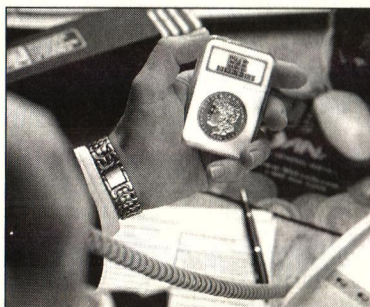
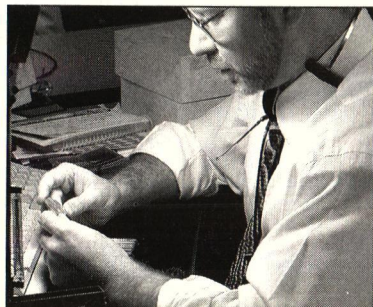
continued on page 431



Not Actual Size

Struck on crude planchets, Standish's threepence carries the date "July 4 90." Some researchers speculate this is when he opened his store on Baltimore Street, but no records support this theory.

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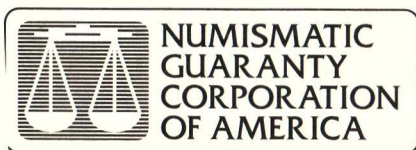
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Thomas Elder's Golden Touch

THIS MONTH'S COLUMN continues my discussion of Thomas Elder's rather flamboyant career as dealer and numismatist extraordinaire.

His Debut as Dealer

Elder achieved his goal in 1900; he became a professional coin dealer. Well, almost. He still maintained a "day job" as a telegrapher to help pay expenses.

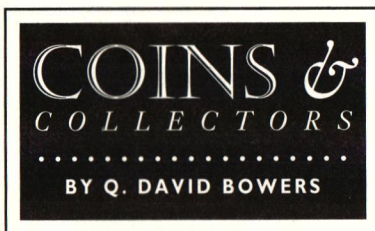
Meanwhile, whenever he had the opportunity, he sought the company of numismatic collectors and dealers. For example, he wrote:

I spent the entire summer of 1901 in Buffalo [where the ANA convention was held] and collected coins there also. I remember securing at Lyman H. Low's sale that year a lot of "350 poor or holed coins," and found several blanks, washers and rivets in the collection. . . . That was the convention where J.A. Black, of Bay City, Michigan, was relieved of a slug and other valuable coins at a boarding house he stopped at. He had talked too loudly of his treasures at the dining table.

At the Pan-American Exposition held in Buffalo that summer, President William McKinley was shot by an assassin. Elder assumed the role of official government telegrapher, relaying the news about the dying president to the world.

In the summer of 1902, while working for the Pittsburgh Provision & Packing Company, Elder was offered the position of private secretary to the Honorable Alfred S. Moore, a newly appointed district court judge. As it necessitated moving to Nome, Alaska, Elder respect-

fully declined the job offer. About this time, Elder made the decision to become a full-time coin dealer.



The Medium Is the Message

Elder decided to advertise his fledgling business in 1902, making his initial foray into token issuing. His first token displayed the Latin motto MOVEO ET PROFICIO ("I move and I am proficient"), but he was embarrassed to find he had misspelled the word PROFICIO. Unfortunately, he had ordered 1,000 aluminum pieces and 100 copper. Subsequently a new

die with spelling corrections (along with other marketing information) was produced.

Elder devoted himself exclusively to his new endeavor, as the April 1903 issue of *The Numismatist* noted:

At present [Elder's] whole time is given to his coin business which in a few years has developed to a considerable proportion. This is mainly due to persistent and judicious advertising, honorable dealings with his patrons, and promptness, three elements so necessary to success in any business.

Elder moved to New York City in May 1904 and remained there for most of his business career, leaving in the late 1930s. During this time, he prepared 294 auction catalogs. He once claimed he could describe 1,000 lots in a single day. Although this initially seems a blatant exaggeration, a survey of Elder's terse descriptions in certain catalogs suggests he was speaking the truth. Even though the controversial dealer conducted many auctions simply to move merchandise out the door, his inventory did include many fine cabinets described in such detail that the information still is of great interest and utility to scholars.

Elder's catalogs reveal the erratic character of their author. Sometimes he used a great deal of creative verbiage to describe an often-encountered 1795 gold \$5 with Small Eagle reverse—listing numerous details, such as numerals, letter positions, die cracks and more. Then, in another catalog, a similar 1795 specimen might be dismissed with just a word or two about its grade—not even mentioning its basic type!



Elder's auction catalogs offered items from the mundane to the sublime.

Numismatic Contemporaries

It is likely that in the early days Elder counted Farran Zerbe among his friends. At the turn of the century, Zerbe, not quite 30 years old, jumped into numismatics with both feet, having pursued the hobby only casually since childhood. He frequently contributed articles and "fillers" to *The Numismatist*, and was quite a public relations specialist and promoter of his own best interests.

For example, the June 1903 issue of *The Numismatist* reprinted an article from the March 11 edition of *The Pittsburgh Times*, describing Zerbe's grandiose plan for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Entitled "A Novel Scheme," the idea clearly demonstrated his penchant for the overdone and outlandish. Zerbe proposed the creation of a huge, gold coin, based on the design of a \$20 gold piece, but 40 feet in diameter and 30 inches thick, with the eagle's wing extending 29 feet high! Presumably the United States government was to be the capable entity that would manufacture this immense amount of gold. Of such stuff dreams are made, and the idea remained just that.

In 1906 the peripatetic Zerbe wrote in *The Numismatist* about various visits to coin dealers across the country. One account, published in the August issue, featured an interesting meeting with Elder:

The large artistically arranged and modern equipment of the suite of rooms which Thomas L. Elder devotes to his coin trade are a delight for anyone to visit. Mr. Elder reports good business, in fact too good to give his publication *The Elder Monthly* the attention it should have. This paper is not as old as its name implies.

Like many eccentrics, Elder main-



Thomas Elder (second row) and Farran Zerbe (first row) pose rather sternly at the 1907 ANA Anniversary Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

tained he sometimes was misunderstood. "My bite is not near as severe as my bark," he said. However, in time, Zerbe would be badly bitten.

Showdown at the ANA

Elder's development into a world-class curmudgeon was legendary and began soon after his move to New York. It is apparent in the inscriptions he published on numerous tokens and medals, many of which were of a satirical and/or political nature.

One of his early targets was none other than Farran Zerbe, who in a well-played coup in 1908 purchased *The Numismatist* from the widow of ANA founder George Heath. The numismatic community assumed Zerbe bought it on behalf of the American Numismatic Association, which used the magazine as its official voice. These observers were wrong.

Zerbe wanted the publication for himself, envisioning a nice profit. He discovered, however, that producing a magazine was a great deal of work. He was quite grateful when an "angel" in the form of W.W.C. Wilson bought *The Numismatist* and

presented it as a gift to the ANA.

Zerbe also was involved in what appeared to be improper conduct (if not downright fraud) with regard to ANA administration and election affairs in 1909-10. His actions angered many members. (It is ironic that today the ANA's highest honor is called the "Farran Zerbe Memorial Award for Distinguished Service.")

Elder took dead aim at Zerbe and his evasive maneuvers in a widely distributed circular:

How it must pain you to talk to anybody who does his own thinking. Your oily, oozy slimy phrases will make about as much impression as a pea shooter against a belt of armor plate. Never again will the American collectors be deceived. . . . [W]e shall now have time to unlimber our guns and we will riddle your punky, rotten defense with such a hail of shot and shell and shrapnel as you may never hope to experience again; and if, per chance, there [be] a spark of animation left after we get through, there will be a surgeon present to take the antemortem statement.

Elder also was critical of the ANA, depicting it as a jackass (A.N. ASSoc.) on a medal. (See Pete Smith's column, "Names in Numismatics," on page 399.)

Later, additional venom was directed at "pacifists" Henry Ford and William Jennings Bryan, who resisted America's entry into World War I. And woe to any Elder customer who showed up at one of his auction sales without paying an earlier bill. As the victim entered the room, Elder's voice would ring out from the podium, saying something like, "Here comes a deadbeat."

Next month, I'll focus on Elder's later years and his efforts to promote the hobby. More anecdotes await! •



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The Opinionated and Outspoken Elder

COIN DEALER TOM Elder had opinions about politics and the leadership of the American Numismatic Association. Not content just to express these sentiments in publications, such as his *Elder Monthly*, he had them struck in metal.

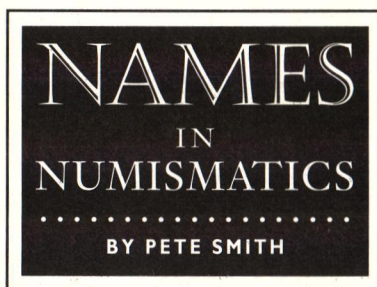
Elder's first tokens, storecards issued in 1902, had no agenda other than to promote his business. His personal token for the ANA's 1907 convention featured a portrait of Christopher Columbus borrowed from a die previously used for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition [Eglit 63]. For the 1910 ANA convention, he issued another storecard that commemorated his sale of the Moughey Collection.

However, Elder soon directed his attention outward, becoming an advocate for the redemption of the hobby. In his opinion, ANA President Farran Zerbe was a huckster who promoted low-value pieces as precious, collectable items. Specifically, Elder was annoyed with Zerbe for producing and selling small gold tokens at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in 1904.

In 1909 Elder produced a piece intended to parody Zerbe's 1904 tokens. Elder's token features the legend LOUISI•A•N•A•PIKER'S•EXPOSITION and a lemon with two leaves bearing the letters L, P and E, mimicking Zerbe's fleur-de-lis design. Whereas Zerbe's pieces were marked "Louisiana Gold," Elder's reads PENNSYLVANIA•GOLD^{1/2} NERVE/OTHER•HALF•BRASS.

Elder struck a second anti-Zerbe issue in 1909, which shows on its obverse a mountain topped by a zebra-

striped donkey, meant to portray Zerbe. On the base of the mountain is "A•N•ASSo." The legend reads:



PIKER'S•PEAK•GOLD/IN ME/I TRUST/1909/THE SUMMIT/OF IMPUDENCE/GUARANTEED TWENTY FOUR CARATS PUNK.

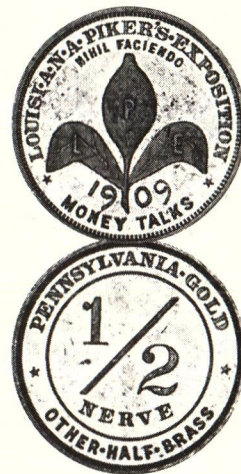
At the time, Elder supported Frank Higgins for president of the ANA, while Zerbe endorsed John M. Henderson as his successor. Zerbe, then owner of *The Numismatist*, used the magazine as a forum to publish the following complaint: "Mr. Higgins has been circulating quietly and anonymously denunciations of the present administration and has been very abusive of me personally. Certainly an unjust award for the years that have been given to the upbuilding of the ANA."

Elder responded in a printed circular, "Hee Haw to you and Good Morning, Protector of the Honor of the ANA: The 'Honor' of the Association! Really, that is a tender topic for you, the author of La. Gold. What do you know about such things? Hee Haws and fake gold pieces. Which is the greater evil of the two just mentioned? Let the ANA decide later." Despite his best efforts, Elder's attacks were ineffective; Henderson won the election by

a large margin. (For more about Elder and Zerbe, see Q. David Bowers' "Coins and Collectors" in this issue.)

Elder also struck political tokens, such as those attacking William Jennings Bryan and others supporting Woodrow Wilson. Of note are 44 Elder token die combinations—comprising more than 40 percent of known Elder issues—featuring Abraham Lincoln, his favorite subject.

In Elder's opinion, temperance was a virtue. He issued two medals "dedicated to the citizens of the rum-soaked City of New York." The reverse of one reads WHERE MORE MONEY/IS SPENT DAILY FOR/DRINK THAN WOULD/CLOTHE AND FEED/ALL OF ITS POOR. The second has a large "R" indicating SOME OF THE/EFFECTS OF RUM:/REVELRY/ROWDYISM/RIBALDRY/RIOT/ROGUERY/REMORSE/RUIN.



Actual Size: 28.2mm

Patterned after Farran Zerbe's "Louisiana Gold" tokens of 1904, this piece ruthlessly mimics Elder's numismatic nemesis.

ANA MUSEUM

With the outbreak of the First World War, Elder was provided an opportunity to express his dislike of Germans and "Hyphens," a pejorative for German-Americans. One token reads: STAND BY THE/ UNITED STATES/ FLAG/ NO ROOM HERE FOR/ "HYPHENS"/ OR/ "KAI-SERISTS"/ 1917. Although Elder joined the New York Veteran Artillery Corps, he did not see combat.

Despite his cantankerous nature, Elder did not alienate everyone. He had important friends in numismatics and in the New York Coin Club. A 1917 Elder medal honors "Numismatic Knights of the Round Table" F.C.C. Boyd, D.W. Valentine, Elliott Smith, Thomas L. Elder, Albert R. Frey and J.M. Swanson. Another medal promotes two friends with the legend BOYD AND SMITH/ ARE/



Actual Size: 30.8mm

On this Elder medallion issue, Zerbe is portrayed as a zebra-striped jackass.

ANA MUSEUM

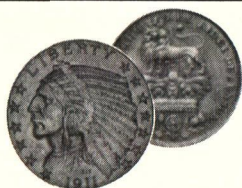
CRONIES TWIN/ THEY NEVER LOSE/ AND ALWAYS WIN.

Yet, even the United States government did not escape Elder's biting criticism. In his opinion, the Barber silver coin designs were inferior to past issues and foreign pieces. His appeal to the United States Treasury, asking for more artistic coinage, was thwarted by an earlier

law, the Act of September 26, 1890, which prohibited design changes more often than once every 25 years. When the design for the Mercury dime finally was revealed in 1916, Elder dubbed it the "handsomest American Coin."

Researcher Tom DeLorey produced an excellent catalog of Elder medals and tokens for the June and July 1980 issues of *The Numismatist*. DeLorey's monograph identifies 104 die combinations.

If Elder was a character, he could not be faulted for his dedication to numismatics, as the reverse of one storecard attests: MORE ENDURING THAN BOOKS,/ OR/ CUSTOMS,/ OR NATIONS:/—A COIN.— If for nothing else, Elder will be remembered for his enduring tokens and medals. •



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The contest is open to all U.S. and Canadian high school students who are currently attending high school or will be graduating seniors as of June 30, 2000. Interested students should submit a typewritten (double-spaced) essay of five to ten pages on one of the following topics:

- 1. The history of the rare coin market or any part of that history**
- 2. Any individual United States coin series**
- 3. A coin variety or group of coin varieties**

**All entries submitted must be received by July 1, 2000 and should be sent to:
 PCGS Essay Contest, P.O. Box 9458, Newport Beach, CA 92658.**

Entries will be judged based on content and creativity. Final winners will be determined by a judging committee composed of David Hall, John Dannreuther, and Q. David Bowers. Winners are selected at the sole discretion of PCGS and the judges. Employees and family members of PCGS or its related companies are not eligible to enter the contest. For additional information, please contact Rebecca Tran at Collectors Universe (800) 447-8848 or (949) 833-0600 ext.225, or e-mail Rebecca@collectors.com.



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David Hall, LM1272

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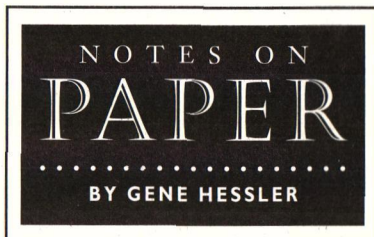
Kenneth Guy, Legend in the Making

IF I WERE asked to name three of the foremost, living American engravers, Kenneth Guy would most certainly number among them. Too often we fail to recognize superlative artists and musicians—men and women who will be legendary in the future, but who already have made their mark, here and now. Quiet and unassuming, Guy also might escape our attention. He did not seek the spotlight when he engraved for American Bank Note Company (ABNCo), and in retirement his attitude has not changed.

William F. Ford (1895-1962), superintendent of the picture engraving department at ABNCo and a legendary artist in his own right, trained a number of engravers. One of the last to have benefit of the guidance of this superior engraver and to carry on the Ford tradition was Kenneth Guy.

I first met Guy during a research visit to ABNCo and discovered that we both made our homes in northern New Jersey. I was hesitant to

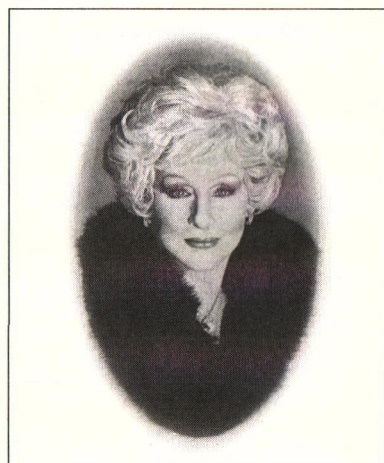
contact him after that initial meeting. However, in the years before I moved to St. Louis, we found the



opportunity to seal our friendship. Within a few months, he retired from ABNCo and moved to a warmer climate. We continue to exchange letters.

In 1988 I had completed work on *An Illustrated History of U.S. Loans, 1775-1898* and wanted to create a special edition that would include a signed engraving. I was able to obtain about 40 copies of *America 1776-1976*. Artist Robert Lavin, who was born in 1919 and died a few years ago, created this modern-day, four-person version of the *Spirit of '76*. Convenient for me, Ken Guy and Bob Lavin were neighbors, and both agreed to sign each of the 40 prints. I was extremely pleased. The special edition sold out immediately, thanks to their kind efforts.

During preparation of my book *The Engraver's Line*, Guy, along with other engravers, submitted a list of his engraved work. Consisting of paper money, corporate bonds and stock certificates, postage stamps, United States postal panels, traveler's checks and miscellaneous work, it fills more than two pages. One of Guy's best—and one of my favorites—is an engraved portrait of

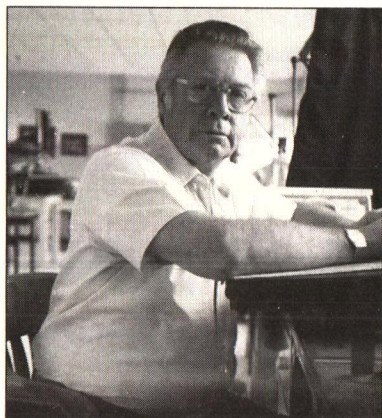


Guy's engraving of Mary Kay Ash is sensuously realistic.

Mary Kay Ash for a Mary Kay Cosmetics stock certificate. I understand Ms. Ash was pleased, as she should have been; the texture of her skin, fur collar and coiffure are sensuously realistic. This engraving ranks as one of the absolute best female portraits by any American engraver. I treasure my signed proof of this portrait, which Guy presented to me as a gift.

Another lovely, but somewhat larger, stock certificate portrait by Guy is that of Mrs. Roland Sahlm, engraved for Elixir Industries. Such elaborate, custom portraits and other engraved art are seldom seen today on company certificates, since any portrait, especially a large one, commands a substantial charge by the security company.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, in July 1926, Kenneth Guy always followed his artistic instincts. He attended evening classes at Theodore Roosevelt High School, joining ABNCo in 1943. His uncle, an accountant at the firm, had arranged



Kenneth Guy is a living legend in the field of bank note engraving.

for Guy's interview. One year into his apprenticeship, he was drafted by the United States Army. Following World War II, Guy returned to ABNCo in 1946. During Guy's nearly 10-year apprenticeship, he studied antique drawing at the Mechanics Institute and life drawing at the Art Career School.

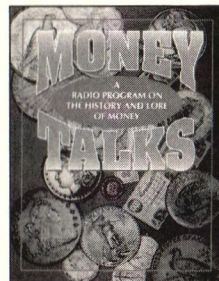
Bob Lavin prepared about 55 pieces of art for ABNCo, 20 of which Ken Guy engraved. In addition to these beautifully executed stock certificate images, Guy engraved 18 subjects, including portraits, for bank notes of 12 countries.

Here follows a selection of bank notes that bear engravings by Ken Guy; each is extremely inexpensive. All are portraits, except where indicated: *Avaroa*, Bolivia 500 pesos (Pick [P]165); *R. Facio Brenes*, Costa

Rica 10 colones (P240); *Arms of Ecuador*, Ecuador 5 to 100 sucres (P108-112); *Loggers*, Ghana 5 cedis (P19); *J.C. Duvalier*, Haiti 10 gourdes (P242); *Colonel Bolognesi*, Peru 5,000 soles (P123); and *Antonio José Sucre*, Venezuela 10 bolivares (P57).

For a few dollars, you can own a bank note or certificate with the work of a preeminent American engraver. An inexpensive example of Guy's stock certificate work is his *Horseshoe Bend at Altoona*, pictured on the certificate for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

To learn more about this artist and view a comprehensive selection of his work, see Mark Tomasko's article, "The Work of Kenneth Guy" in the March/April 1995 issue of *Paper Money*, the journal of the Society of Paper Money Collectors. •



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1921-P MERC DIME	125	330	535	750	1080	1250	2300
1921-D MERC DIME	170	380	615	800	1200	1400	2100
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1942/41-D MERC DIME	315	400	650	1400	2300	3500	3850
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1876-CC 20 CENTS	6500	25000	30000	45000	65000	87500	130K
1901-S BARBER QUARTER	4600	6000	7650	11000	16000	19500	32000
1796 BUST QUARTER	8300	11500	13500	19500	24000	38500	70000
1804 BUST QUARTER	2400	6000	12500	31000	60000	70000	85000
1870-CC SEATED QUARTER	7250	9500	13500	19500	23000	27500	32000
1871-CC SEATED QUARTER	11000	15500	21500	24000	28000	32000	38000
1873-CC SEATED QUARTER	5100	7750	14600	26000	57500	65000	75000
1913-S BARBER QUARTER	2150	2700	3300	3800	5600	6650	10400
1916 ST. LIB. QUARTER	2200	2600	3400	4050	6000	7400	9750
1918/17-S SLQ	1900	3550	6150	8800	18000	27500	67500
1932-D WASH QUARTER	55	120	210	375	725	1100	4820
1932-S WASH QUARTER	48	64	100	215	325	460	2110
1794 FH HALF DOL.	4400	9600	16500	27500	265K	300K	400K
1836 REEDED EDGE HALF	950	1400	2400	4600	12000	25000	30000
1870-CC SEATED HALF	2500	7000	13500	25000	30000	40000	50000
1871-CC SEATED HALF	390	850	1400	6000	36000	42000	51000
1878-S SEATED HALF	9000	10500	13500	21750	55000	80000	100K
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Mark E. Scott, ANA Life Member #4820

Toward an Understanding of Medieval Coins

MANY COLLECTORS SEEM to neglect or ignore medieval coins. Perhaps they find them too crude, or their legends hard to decipher. Portraits, when present, often are unrealistic, and the lack of accessible information can be off-putting. Though these "obstacles" have some validity, none are insurmountable; indeed, it is for just these reasons that many delight in collecting medieval coinage.

A great deal can be learned from such issues. Their "crudeness" tells us much of how they were made; their legends enlighten us about where and how people lived; and their portraits, or the lack thereof, speak to political or cultural influences. Coins often provide the only historical record of times from which documents generally have not survived.

To maximize your collecting pleasure, you should go beyond mere possession. These small discs of metal are keys to greater understanding of the who, how, what, when and where of history. Gathering information about them will certainly be a challenge, as references often are outdated and in foreign languages; but assistance is available if you are willing to seek it.

Medieval Turmoil and Regression

After the fall of the Western Roman Empire in A.D. 476, Europe faced an uncertain future, bereft of the traditional certainties of the *Pax Romana*. Eastern emperors in Constantinople continued to stoke the fires of Roman enlightenment, but the culture and lifestyle of the West continued to sink into the ever-dimming shadows.

During the Middle Ages (the 5th through the 15th centuries), numerous successor kingdoms sprang up,



ruled by displaced barbarians. The feudal system developed in response to immediate threats to survival, such as invasion and food shortages. Communities composed of farmers, laborers and craftsmen traded service and allegiance to a local lord for protection from peril.



The volatile and fragmented social climate had a profound effect on monetary exchange and coin-making. In A.D. 411, as Rome's influence ebbed and its mighty garrisons were recalled from Britain, artisans (including the "monetarii," or makers of money) began to retreat, taking with them their expertise, but leaving behind some of their tools. Barbarian invaders inherited their predecessors' coining equipment, but not their skill and knowledge. Ignorance and inexperience replaced the care and attention to detail that characterized classical times. Even in the remaining Roman Byzantine Empire in the East, coin production (apart from gold pieces) displayed a distinct lowering of standards.

From Bronze to Gold

Although the need for coins was minimal, they continued to be pro-



This Spanish tremissis (left), struck by the Toledo Mint, dates to the Visigothic Kingdom's Chintila (A.D. 636-39). The medieval sceat (right) was produced in the Northumbrian Kingdom (c. A.D. 810-41).

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duced. However without the aid of experienced artisans, the pieces became increasingly imitative and crude, with blundered legends.

Even before Rome's retreat from the West, coins of "unofficial" origin showed progressively deteriorating designs. Some of these issues became indecipherable and today are lumped together under the category of "barbarous radiates." A number of specimens are so poorly made that sometimes it is hard to determine whether they are badly worn or simply weakly struck.

The Byzantine capital, Constantinople, stood as the stronghold of knowledge and culture and the well-spring of the new faith—Christianity. Here, gold coins continued to be struck in the traditional Roman style (complete with Latin legends).

In the 500s, missionaries spread Christianity to the Lombards in Italy, the Visigoths in Spain and the Franks in Gaul. With this interaction came a rekindling of interest in the arts and learning. Pope Gregory's emissary to the Angles reached Britain in 595, and change was almost immediate. The influence of Christianity spread inexorably throughout England and into Ireland (with St. Patrick).

Revitalized trade soon followed, and, consequently, attempts at coinage standardization. For example, in Anglo-Saxon Britain in the 7th and 8th centuries, coinage from several minting centers achieved regulated production. At about the same time Byzantium was abandoning Western traditions, barbarians started imitating the gold *solidus* (or *nomisma*) and

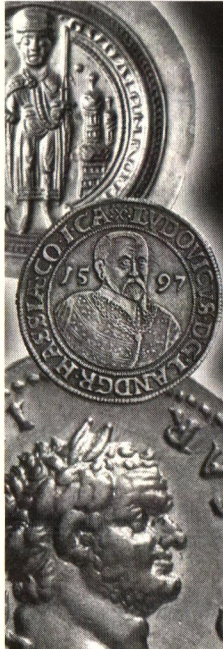
especially the *tremissis* (one third of a *solidus*). For a time, the *tremissis* continued in use in the West, and gold became the coinage metal of choice.

The Use of Silver

England's version of the *tremissis* (called a *thrymsa*) bore crude portraits and stylized inscriptions, usually in runic lettering. (Such types often are referred to by their distinctive legends.)

By the middle of the 7th century, however, gold began to be replaced by silver (copper in Northumbria), possibly because of inflation or shortages of raw materials. With but a few exceptions, gold was not used again in coinage for nearly 600 years.

In June, I will take a look at making money . . . the Medieval way. Until then, *vale atque vale*.



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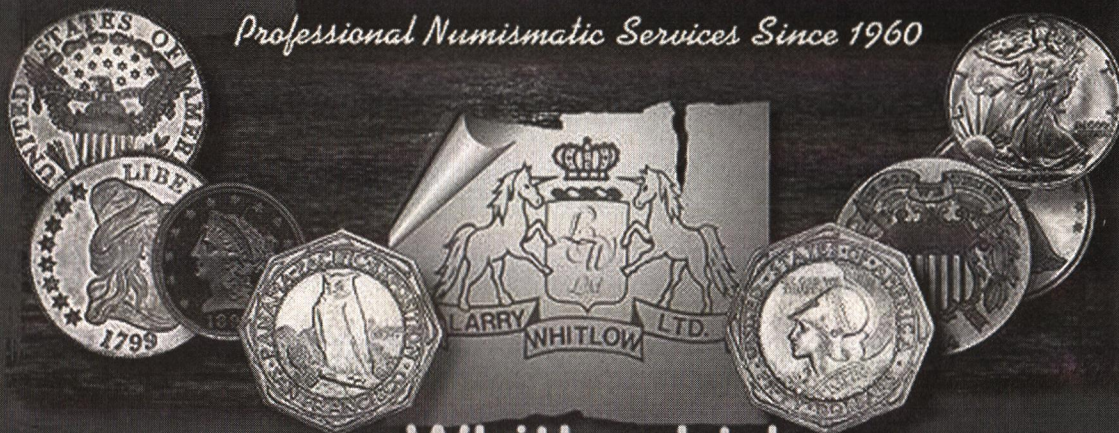
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Virtual Numismatics

THE PRINTED WORD is under attack. While at this point it can be loosely classified as “friendly fire,” without question I believe that paper-based information is in danger of oblivion. The effects of electronic interconnection already are causing casualties among many of the world’s magazines and newspapers. We, as members of the ANA, need to consider the potential effect this global digitization movement may have on *The Numismatist*.

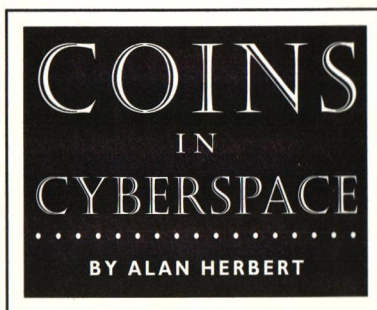
Between now and 2010, I predict we will see more and more publications abandon the printed format. Instead, we will get our in-depth news, specialty information and basic knowledge from a computer terminal. Who knows, perhaps even our monthly journal will no longer be available.

This in itself would not be a bad thing. Digitized, *The Numismatist* possibly could feature more information, photographs and a wider mix of contributors. I’m sure Editor Barbara Gregory and her staff, along with the Publications Committee, would have some specific ideas that could be implemented in the event of a switch to an electronic format.

I’ve mentioned some of the warning signs in previous columns and in conversations with ANA members. Notably, computer industry publications have been some of the first to feel the pressure and switch away from paper. They are closer to the sources of information and have decided to adapt and demonstrate leadership by planning ahead.

For me, this situation was brought home with the arrival of the latest

“Computer Shopper” magazine. Two years ago, it was a telephone-book-sized catalog, crammed with



ads that took up more than 90 percent of its 800-plus pages. In line with the renovation announced by the editor, this latest issue is about 350 pages, with a substantially larger amount of editorial copy. It has, in effect, abandoned its position as the leading source of buyer information, all in an effort to compete with other computer magazines that have stayed smaller. In my opinion, there is a message there that we need to take to heart.

Don’t get me wrong, I’m not suggesting that the ANA is behind the times. The Board of Governors is aware of digital trends, and I hear that headquarters has considered an electronic newsletter. My purpose is merely to make you aware of developments that might affect the hobby. Readers also could take this opportunity to offer input: What would you like to see in an electronic version of *The Numismatist*?

Bits and Bites

♦ The various companies building the complex Internet structure are repeating that they expect to have

high-speed Internet access available to 40 percent of the United States population by the end of the year. In nearly all cases, the establishment of connections is on, or even a bit ahead of, schedule.

♦ Don’t lose confidence in the Internet because of the rash of “hacker attacks” in early February. Most experts knew something like this was coming. It did serious damage, but will result in increased efforts to protect users, as well as improved methods of detecting and catching the vandals responsible. Ironically, some Internet terrorists—who consider themselves “good guys”—have protested the universal appellation of the vandals as “hackers.” It’s a fine line that’s lost on most people.

♦ Microsoft uses the slogan: “Where do you want to go today?” For numismatists, I’d change that to: “Where do you want to go tomorrow?” All you need to do is imagine what you would like to see—online price lists, grading aids or any of your fondest dreams—and it’s quite likely that in the next few years you will see it become a reality. Already in the works are complete units that include a television, telephone, computer, printer and scanner—all connected to your home security system, your appliances, your car, etc. The best gift you can give your children, and yourself, is a computer. We all need to look beyond today . . . and beyond tomorrow.

I would be interested to learn readers’ opinions regarding the advantages of utilizing computers to enhance our hobby. Please send me your comments via E-mail to answerman2@aol.com.

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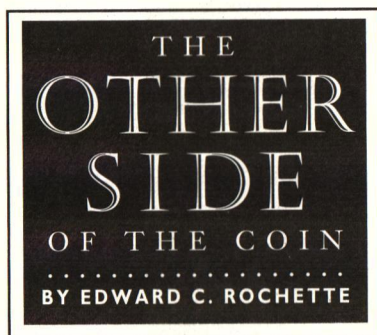
The Mule Train to Molokai

CLAUSEN'S OLD-FASHIONED bookstore in downtown Colorado Springs is long gone; Henry Clausen passed away a number of years ago. His classic shop was a wonderful place to spend a rainy afternoon, reading and researching. Over the years, Clausen had acquired a fair collection of books about numismatics, which leads us to this month's story.

I attended the ANA's Third Mid-year Convention in Hawaii in 1981 and thus was able to fulfill a childhood dream. Ever since the 5th grade, I had wanted to visit the leper colony on Molokai. Father Joseph Damien, the "Leper Priest," had become my idol. I was a boarding school student at Sacred Hearts Academy in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, when our paths crossed, so to speak. It was generations earlier—in 1873—that the Belgian missionary priest set sail for Molokai from the whaling port of New Bedford, Massachusetts, across the Acushnet River.

Long after Father Damien died from the disease he sought to save

others from, his quarters at the New England seminary became a revered shrine. A reward for good scholar-



ship was a visit to the room where this hero rested before continuing the arduous journey around the Horn to his Hawaiian mission.

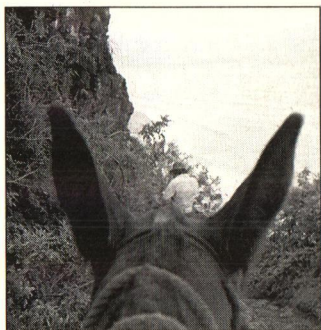
Delighted at the prospect of my own Hawaiian adventure, I went to Clausen's bookstore to find guide books and other references. When I told the owner of my intent to visit the leper colony, he requested a favor. It seems this scholarly-looking gentleman had been a professional wrestler in his younger days! He

often wrestled in the islands and still corresponded with a former opponent who now was a patient-resident at the leper colony. "Would I deliver a package?" he asked. I saw this as an opportunity to accomplish some in-person research on special currency used by the patients.

While the convention brought me to Hawaii, the task of actually getting to the colony was not a simple matter of booking a flight to the island. There were two ways to reach the colony—by charter plane or by mule. My wife, Mary Ann, and I chose the latter. It seemed more in keeping with the spirit of adventure.

Adventure it was. The ride was a mere 2,000 feet—straight down! The path appeared even narrower than the mule itself. One of my feet wedged in the stirrup rubbed against the edge of the cliff, while the other hung out over the "abyss" at the edge of the trail. If a shoe was lost, it would drop nearly a half-mile down into the breaking surf. So steep was the grade, the mules were equipped with rump harnesses, designed to keep the saddles from sliding over their heads. Riders actually stood straight up in the saddle during part of the journey. The steep descent took more than two hours to negotiate. In Father Damien's time, the cliff was considered an impassable barrier to escape.

To this day, I am not certain whether the cramp in my hand resulted from holding the horn of the saddle so tightly or from grasping Clausen's package. Once we reached the beach, it took another 15 or 20 minutes to get to Kalaupapa. On arriving at the village, I inquired about

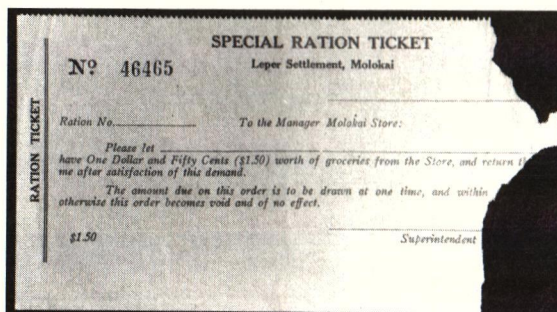


A "mule's eye" view of the trail (left) yields a glimpse of the ocean more than 1,000 feet below. The village of Kalaupapa's coastline looks quite tranquil today (right). In earlier times, lepers were thrown from transport boats here. Those who made it to shore found refuge in the colony.

the address of Clausen's friend, and was informed he was at the hospital undergoing chemotherapy (a procedure used to arrest the disease). I left the package at his house and continued on my numismatic investigation.

I asked about currency history, but no one could recall anything truly unusual. However, many residents did remember a time when "non-patients" took such precautions as keeping a shallow bowl filled with denatured alcohol on the counter at the colony post office and store. Money received in daily commerce was placed in the bowl to be "disinfected" before being accepted.

After my trip, I still did not find any specific information on the subject until I discovered a copy of *Numismatic Aspects of Leprosy: Money, Medals, and Miscellanea*, co-authored



With a face value of \$1.50, this "Special Ration Ticket" was used to purchase groceries from the colony store.

by Marr and Boland. The authors had discovered two, distinct issues of scrip. One was called "ration tickets," the other was similarly named "ration bills." The difference between the two was that a ration bill could be used to purchase any merchandise, while a ticket was designated solely for groceries. Quoting a 1906 Board of Health report, the book presented data stating that six

months' sales at the colony store netted \$6,035.58 in cash, \$4,571 in ration tickets, \$3,155 in ration bills and \$78.20 in charges. (Members interested in this text should contact the ANA Library.)

While I have great memories of my visit to Molokai, I have yet to acquire a specimen of either scrip issue. The entire undertaking simply went "downhill."



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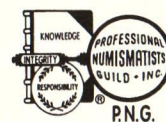


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I Still Need a 1909-S VDB

WE ALL HAVE heard it, and we all have said it: "I need a 1914-D cent," or whatever the case might be. Come on, now. We really do not *need* those coins. We can't eat them; they don't keep us warm or sheltered from the weather. They will not love us back, no matter how much we love them; and we really can live without them. Why then do collectors so often say they *need* such-and-such a coin? This question has puzzled me for years.

The individual who *needs* a certain piece is the ideal customer; this catchword is an immediate tip-off that someone is willing to pay whatever it takes to own the coin of his or her dreams. There seems to be a compelling force that urges collectors to buy appealing coins whether or not they are, in fact, needed.

Now, don't get me wrong. I enjoy collecting coins as much as the next person and would not dissuade anyone from filling their sets. However, we should think carefully about our purchases and remember that, with very few exceptions, there always will be another opportunity to buy just about any coin imaginable. Buying a coin you *have* to own, no matter the price, can be a costly mistake.

I have learned over the years that it is the hunt for those elusive coins that makes owning them so rewarding. I probably have assembled a half dozen sets of Lincoln cents, and each time one is complete, I find some reason to sell it and begin again. Throughout most of that time, I have *needed* a 1909-S VDB, 1914-D or some other key specimen. The thought that they were missing

kept me motivated to look for just the right piece—in the right condition and at the right price. Buying



one by just mailing someone a check does not give the same satisfaction as finding and obtaining a prize on my own terms. This is what really counts to a seasoned collector.

Yes, I still need that VDB. No, I will not jump at the next ad I encounter. I find more satisfaction in waiting—knowing that someday the set will be complete and I will have met another challenge. With such restraint, it is no wonder I can resist buying into some of the ads I feature in this column.

File #628

Each month, it seems as if one ad stands out above all others. This time, it is an offering of a gold coin the promoters dub "The Swiss Maiden." Most of us would probably call it a Swiss 20 francs gold coin—the kind that contains less than 1/5 ounce of gold and regularly sells for about \$60 in uncirculated condition.

A mailing that recently came with my American Express™ credit-card bill asks customers to purchase one of these coins for \$229. If you want 10 or more, you can save a lot of money at only \$2,165 . . . or perhaps lose a lot of money, depending on

how you view their outrageous price. As much as I admire these coins, I decided not to order one.

The ad states that they were first minted more than 100 years ago. However, they fail to mention that the pieces being offered were made in the 1930s. The mailing also suggests that the lucky buyer may somehow share in the same good fortune that has preserved these coins in uncirculated condition all these years.

File #629

A certain "mint" in Connecticut is offering for sale genuine, United States gold bullion coins at about double the melt value of each piece. These are American Eagle 1/10-ounce bullion pieces or, as they describe them, \$5 gold coins. Dated 2000, they are among the first coins of the millennium and therefore somehow better than others. The "hook?" With each coin, buyers will receive a numbered certificate of authenticity, limited to 999 coins per state, and 10 coins per order.

I haven't figured out why one should buy U.S. Mint coins from a private mint; why a numbered certificate of authenticity would add any value to these pieces; or why they are being limited to exactly 999 coins per state. But the promoters seem to think all this makes them worth much more than anyone would pay by buying these pieces from a traditional coin dealer.

File #630

Have you ever seen a coin disappear? Magicians are good at that sort of thing, and so is the company selling a 1-crown commemorative from

Bermuda. These coins, they say, are disappearing quickly (possibly an effect of the Bermuda Triangle phenomenon). Commemorating the 350th anniversary of the founding of the colony in 1609, these are nice coins worthy of any collection, provided you do not get too carried away by the idea that they might some day vanish.

The fact that these 1959 crowns are made of silver and were heavily melted in the 1960s doesn't seem to figure into the company's explanation of what may have happened to the rest of these pieces. Somehow they got hold of a small hoard of these coins and are offering them to collectors for \$45 each. I find this an interesting piece, and despite the high price I may buy one, if only to watch it disappear.

File #631

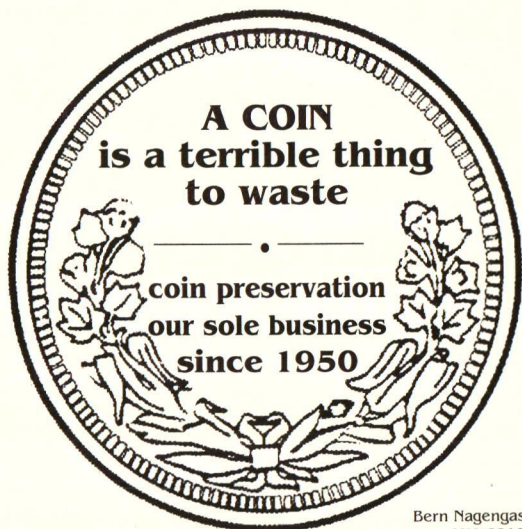
I do not hear much about proof silver American Eagles, but I suspect they are a popular item among collectors. Big, beautiful and reasonably priced, they now have a respectable run of dates from 1986 to the present. With a few exceptions, values for most dates hover around \$20 to \$50. This recent ad for a full set of these proof pieces made me stop and think. It may be time to consider these worthy of collecting.

Unfortunately, this particular promotion is attempting to sell the coins at unrealistic prices, ranging from \$42.50 to \$125 each. They offer a complete set, priced at \$829 for 13 coins from 1986 through 1998. All are in their original, government cases, and the ad correctly states that these are low-mintage U.S. dollars

with gem proof finishes. The prices are high, but the ad is commendable in that it may draw attention to a much-neglected series of very attractive coins.

As an adjunct to the proof offering, this company also sells sets of uncirculated bullion dollars, which can be ordered individually for \$22.95 each, or in a set, dated 1986 to 1998, for \$275. A deluxe storage album (a \$29.95 value) is free if you purchase the complete set. The company should not be faulted for designating these non-circulating bullion rounds as "legal-tender coins." After all, that is how the U.S. government refers to them. But who would actually pay \$22.95, or even the regular price of \$10, for one of these pieces and then spend it as a dollar?

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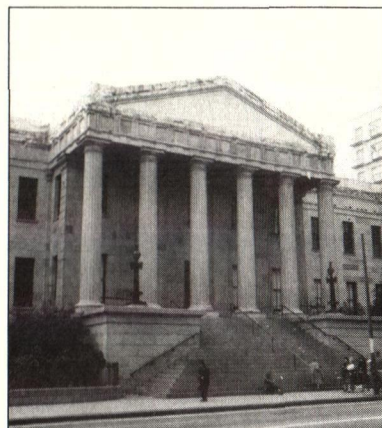
■ Last summer, the ANA Library staff discovered a hidden treasure: a wealth of uncataloged archival material. With current funding and personnel, the Library staff finally is able to implement much-needed policies to preserve these at-risk items. Heather Gerhart, already on staff as R.S. Yeoman intern, assumed the position of Archival Librarian and began work on the project. After the Association's 108th Anniversary Convention in Chicago last summer, newly appointed ANA Historian Arthur M. Fitts III spent several days at ANA headquarters with Gerhart to organize, identify and inventory the materials.

Among the items found was a col-

lection of clippings and correspondence related to the planned destruction of the San Francisco Mint and the subsequent battle for its preservation (1968-72). Materials include 551 items and 42 photographs. Donor Gordon B. Hunt's itemized index of *The San Francisco Mint Preservation Papers* (SC 1999.0003) now is available on the ANA's web site at www.money.org.

In addition to documents, the archives contain many photographs with only limited identifying information. The photograph below (ANA Museum Accession No. 1998.32.53) was presented to the Association in May 1998 by Leo and Laura Thomas. Measuring 9 3/4 x 16 inches, the picture was produced by modern photographic processes on fiber-based paper. Inset with a convention label (not shown below) identifying the setting as Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1950, the photograph is in stable condition, with limited emulsion cracking.

As part of "Circle of Friends," the



Documents pertaining to the hard-fought campaign to preserve the San Francisco Mint are among the uncataloged archival materials recently discovered in the ANA Library.

ANA Library's oral history project, reminiscences will be preserved along with other archival materials. Please take a moment to study this photograph; contact the Library with any information about those pictured or the convention.



Do you have any reminiscences to share regarding this photo session or the 1950 ANA convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin?



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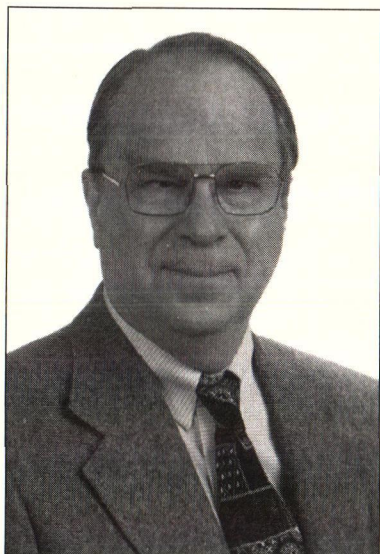




Medieval Numismatics Subject of New Column

"Medieval Musings," a new bi-monthly column authored by ANA Historian Arthur M. Fitts III, debuts this month in *The Numismatist* (see p. 405). A professional numismatist in Framingham, Massachusetts, Fitts is a 45-year member of the Association and former ANA Museum curator. His passion for English hammered gold and silver coinage permeates his numismatic pursuits.

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Arthur M. Fitts III

riod," he says. "I hope this column entices collectors to explore this intriguing field of numismatics."

Fitts acquaints collectors with this fascinating period of numismatic history by giving lectures at ANA conventions and teaching at the annual Summer Seminar. He is a contributing editor for *The Numismatist* and also has written scripts for the ANA's *Money Talks* radio program.

ANA Offers Services to ANS Members

The ANA is prepared to offer a number of services to members of its sister organization, the American Numismatic Society (ANS). "The ANA is here to help the ANS, which is currently reorganizing its staff as it plans to move its headquarters in New York City," ANA Executive Director Edward C. Rochette says.

Services being offered include access to the ANA Library, the world's largest circulating library of numismatic material; use of the ANA Authentication Bureau; availability of the ANA's expeditious photographic services; and participation in the ANA's Summer Seminar program.

Says Arthur Houghton, immediate past president of the ANS, "We at the ANS welcome the statement of support from the American Numismatic Association. I thank the ANA for its generous offer."

Membership Dues Structure Revised

At the ANA's National Money Show™ last month in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, the Board of Governors approved a budget for the Association's 2000-01 fiscal year, which

begins April 1. Included was a revised schedule of membership dues, which featured a 13-percent decrease for regular clubs (from \$33 to \$29), and a 40-percent decrease for life clubs (from \$1,250 to \$750). Regular individual membership will increase from \$29 to \$33, while junior membership will increase from \$11 to \$15. Until May 15, 2000, ANA members can renew for three to five years at the old rates. Consult the membership application on page 358 for additional dues information.

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Membership News

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Calendar listings are published as a service to member clubs of the American Numismatic Association. Entries must be received at least eight weeks prior to the cover date of the magazine and preferably as much as four months in advance so announcements can appear in several consecutive issues. Type or print information and send to Calendar of Events, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279; fax 719/634-4085; E-mail anaedi@money.org. Receipt of show notices is acknowledged by post card; if you do not receive confirmation of your listing, contact the Publications Department.

EAST

APRIL

1-2 LANCASTER, PA. Lancaster Farm and Home Center, Arcadia Rd. (off Rt. 72, Manheim Pike). Red Rose Coin Club 10th Annual Spring Coin Show. Bourse Chairman Tony Almond, c/o RRCC, P.O. Box 621, Lancaster, PA 17608, telephone 610/323-7773.

2 ALBANY, NY. Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension. Capital District Coin Dealers Association Coin Show. Chairman J.F. Marcelli, 28 Locust Ave., Troy, NY 12180, telephone 518/274-4216.

7-9 WHITE PLAINS, NY. Westchester County Center, Bronx River Pkwy. & Central Ave. Coin & Stamp Show co-sponsored by the Cross States Numismatic Association, Westchester County Coin Club and White Plains Coin Club. Mark Simon, 789 Yonkers Ave., Yonkers, NY 10704, telephone 914/423-7957.

ANA EVENTS

April 16-22 National Coin Week. Contact Education Department.

July 1-7 and 8-14 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. The Colorado College. 32nd Annual ANA Summer Seminar. Contact Education Department.

July 7 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. ANA Second Annual Double Eagle "No-Pro" Golf Tournament. Contact Education Department.

August 9-13 PHILADELPHIA, PA. Pennsylvania Convention Center, 1201 Arch St. ANA 109th Anniversary Convention. Contact Convention Department.

March 8-10, 2001 SALT LAKE CITY, UT. Salt Palace Convention Center, 100 South West Temple. ANA National Money Show. Contact Convention Department.

NATIONAL/REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & EVENTS

March 31-April 2 DALTON, GA. North West Georgia Trade & Convention Center (I-75, Exit 136). Georgia Numismatic Association 2000 Coin Show. Bourse Chairman Martin Maddox, P.O. Box 1415, Oxford, GA 30054-1415, telephone 770/922-1423, E-mail maddoxmps@aol.com.

April 9 EAST PEORIA, IL. Mark Twain Hotel, I-74 & E. Main St. Illinois Numismatic Association 1st Central Illinois Coin & Currency Show, co-hosted by the Tazewell Numismatic Society. TNS, P.O. Box 696, Pekin, IL 61555-0696, telephone Dale O. Freidinger, 309/353-6178.

April 21-22 PORTLAND, OR. Doubletree Inn/Lloyd Center. 51st Annual Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association Convention & Coin Show hosted by the Willamette Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Rob Retz, 5757 N.E. Emerson St., Portland, OR 97218-2405, telephone 503/287-6627, E-mail auctoricon@aol.com.

May 12-14 HOUSTON, TX. J.W. Marriott Hotel, 5150 Westheimer Rd. Texas Numismatic Association. 42nd Annual Coin Show. TNA', P.O. Box 512, Houston, TX 77042, Show Chairman Byron S. Paris, telephone 281/558-1540 or 281/261-3412.

May 12-14 MONROEVILLE, PA. Pittsburgh ExpoMart, Bus. Rt. 22 (Exit 6, Pa. Tpk.). Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN) 21st Annual Convention. John Paul Sarosi, 106 Market St., Johnstown, PA 15901, telephone 814/535-5766, fax 814/535-2978, E-mail www.money.org/club_pan.html.

May 26-28 BALTIMORE, MD. Baltimore Convention Center, 1 W. Pratt St. Atlantic Rarities Coin Exposition sponsored by the Maryland State Numismatic Association. Bourse Chairman Tom Palmer, c/o MSNA, P.O. Box 6533, Sparrows Point, MD 21219, telephone 703/351-8409, fax 703/351-8662, E-mail www.money.org/club_msna.html.

June 16-18 MEMPHIS, TN. Cook Convention Center, 255 N. Main St. Memphis Coin Club 24th International Paper Money Show. Mike Crabb, Box 17871, Memphis, TN 38187-0871, telephone 901/757-2515.

June 24-25 WICHITA, KS. 4-H Bldg., 7001 W. 21st St. N. (21st St. N. & Ridge Rd., W. of I-235 on Zoo Blvd.). 17th Annual Kansas Numismatic Association Coin & Stamp Show. KNA, P.O. Box 592, Chanute, KS 66720, telephone Cindy @ KNA Hotline 316/431-3605.

Membership News

8 ANNAPOLIS, MD. West Annapolis Fire Department, Jennifer Rd. Coin Show conducted by the Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis. Hank Schab, P.O. Box 884, Annapolis, MD 21404, telephone 410/268-1396.

8-9 LAVALE, MD. LaVale Fire Hall #1, 423 National Hwy. (U.S. Rte 40, 3 mi. W. of Cumberland). Coin Show sponsored by the Western Maryland Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Becky Weimer, 1313 National Hwy., LaVale, MD 21502, telephone 301/729-6424.

8-9 SALEM, VA. American Legion Hall, 710 Apperson Dr. Salem Coin Club Spring Coin Show. Chairman Emmett Yonce, P.O. Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083, telephone 540/992-5331.

16 CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. F.J. Donovan Post, 3210 Genesee St. Coin & Stamp Bourse & Coin Auction conducted by the Erie County Coin & Stamp Club. Rolf Hjalmarson, c/o Lazer Tree Graphics, 6589 Main St., Williams-ville, NY 14221, telephone 716/633-4104 or 716/634-0668 (evenings/weekends); E-mail jalmar@buffnet.net.

30 GLENS FALLS (QUEENSBURY), NY. Queensbury VFW Post 6196, Richardson St. & Luzerne Rd. 23rd Spring Coin & Stamp Show held by the Coopers Cave Coin Club. Gerald Snow, 1350 Baldwin Corners Rd., Ft. Ann, NY 12827, telephone 518/639-8949.

MAY

7 ALBANY, NY. Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension. Capital District Coin Dealers Association Coin Show. Chairman J.F. Marcelli, 28 Locust Ave., Troy, NY 12180, telephone 518/274-4216.

7 HERSHEY, PA. Pennsylvania Army National Guard Armory, 1720 E. Cara-

cas Ave. Hershey Coin Club Coin Show. Bourse Chairman Susan Byrd, 313 W. Main St., Palmyra, PA 17078, telephone 717/838-8730.

21 CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. F.J. Donovan Post, 3210 Genesee St. Coin & Stamp Bourse & Coin Auction held by the Erie County Coin & Stamp Club. Rolf Hjalmarson, c/o Lazer Tree Graphics, 6589 Main St., Williams-ville, NY 14221, telephone 716/633-4104 or 716/634-0668 (evenings/weekends); E-mail jalmar@buffnet.net.

JUNE

4 ALBANY, NY. Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension. Capital District Coin Dealers Association Coin Show. Chairman J.F. Marcelli, 28 Locust Ave., Troy, NY 12180, telephone 518/274-4216.

11 SEARSPORT, ME. Lions Club, Prosport St. Searsport Coin Show held by the Penobscot Bay Coin Club. Larry Jenkins, 2043 Alt. Hwy., Warren, ME 04864, telephone 207/273-3462 or 207/273-2517 (evenings).

18 CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. F.J. Donovan Post, 3210 Genesee St. Coin & Stamp Bourse & Coin Auction conducted by the Erie County Coin & Stamp Club. Rolf Hjalmarson, c/o Lazer Tree Graphics, 6589 Main St., Williams-ville, NY 14221, telephone 716/633-4104 or 716/634-0668 (evenings/weekends); E-mail jalmar@buffnet.net.

SOUTH

APRIL

1 MCKINNEY, TX. Holiday Inn, 1300 N. Central Expy. (Hwy. 75 N., Exit 40B). Collin County Coin Club Semi-Annual Coin Show. Gary Rollins, P.O.

Box 744, McKinney, TX 75070-0744, telephone 972/727-1566.

2 HOLLYWOOD, FL. Rotary Club, 2349 Taylor St. (I-95 to Hollywood Blvd., E. to 24th Ave., left 3 blocks). Gold Coast Coin Club Monthly Coin & Stamp Show. GCCC, P.O. Box 910, Hollywood, FL 33022.

8-9 METAIRIE, LA. Quality Hotel, 2261 N. Causeway Blvd. Crescent City Coin Club Coinival XXXVIII. Bob Eddy, 4120 Ithaca St., Metairie, LA 70002, telephone 504/455-7078.

16 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL. Coral Ridge Mall, 3200 N. Federal Hwy. @ Oakland Park Blvd. Coin Show held by the Fort Lauderdale Coin Club. Harvey Bastacky, 1181 S.W. 108 Terr., Davie, FL 33324, telephone 954/424-8776.

21-22 ARLINGTON, TX. La Quinta Inn, S.W. corner, I-30 & S.H. 360. Dallas/Mid-Cities Coin Show sponsored by the Dallas Coin Club. Mike Grant, P.O. Box 171719, Arlington, TX 76003, telephone 817/496-2388, fax 817/496-2390, E-mail gahill@home.com.

MAY

13-14 MOREHEAD CITY, NC. Crystal Coast Civic Center, 3505 Arendell St. Carteret Numismatic Society Coin, Stamp & Collectible Show. David Porter, P.O. Box 971, Swansboro, NC 28584, telephone 910/326-3233, E-mail ddporter62@hotmail.com.

14 HOLLYWOOD, FL. Rotary Club, 2349 Taylor St. (I-95 to Hollywood Blvd., E. to 24th Ave., left 3 blocks). Gold Coast Coin Club Monthly Coin & Stamp Show. GCCC, P.O. Box 910, Hollywood, FL 33022.

21 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL. Coral Ridge Mall, 3200 N. Federal Hwy. @ Oakland Park Blvd. Coin Show held by

Membership News

the Fort Lauderdale Coin Club. Harvey Bastacky, 1181 S.W. 108 Terr., Davie, FL 33324, telephone 954/424-8776.

JUNE

2-4 JACKSONVILLE, FL. Morocco Shrine Auditorium, 3800 South St. John's Bluff Rd. Greater Jacksonville Coin Club Annual Coin Show. Bourse Chairman Dick Hamel, c/o GJCC, P.O. Box 16863, Jacksonville, FL 32245, telephone 904/730-2267.

3 VICKSBURG, MS. Battlefield Inn, 4137 I-20 Frontage Rd. (Exit 4B). Vicksburg Coin Club Coin & Collectible Show. Cason Schaffer, 107 East View Dr., Vicksburg, MS 39180, telephone 601/638-1195.

4 HOLLYWOOD, FL. Rotary Club, 2349 Taylor St. (I-95 to Hollywood Blvd., E. to 24th Ave., left 3 blocks). Gold Coast Coin Club Monthly Coin & Stamp Show. GCCC, P.O. Box 910, Hollywood, FL 33022.

18 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL. Coral Ridge Mall, 3200 N. Federal Hwy. @ Oakland Park Blvd. Coin Show held by the Fort Lauderdale Coin Club. Harvey Bastacky, 1181 S.W. 108 Terr., Davie, FL 33324, telephone 954/424-8776.

24-25 RALEIGH, NC. Kerr Scott Bldg., North Carolina State Fairgrounds. Raleigh Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show. Halbert Carmichael, Box 5625, Raleigh, NC 27650, telephone 919/832-4128, E-mail halbert_carmichael@ncsu.edu.

CENTRAL

APRIL

1 KALAMAZOO, MI. Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, County Center Bldg. (Room E), 2900 Lake St. Kalamazoo Numismatic Club Annual Spring

Coin Show. KNC, P.O. Box 462, Portage, MI 49081.

2 MILAN, IL. Milan Community Center, Camden Park, U.S. Rt. 67. Quad City Coin Club Annual Spring Coin Show. Bourse Chairman John R. Brixey, 1553 39th St., Rock Island, IL 61201, telephone 309/788-8726.

2 OMAHA, NE. Holiday Inn (Salon C & D), I-80 @ 72nd & Grover St. SAC-Midwest Coin Club Annual Coin Show. Mike Dillemath, c/o SMCC, 15671 Marcy St., Omaha, NE 68118, telephone 402/293-9596.

2 ROYAL OAK, MI. Royal Oak Senior Community Center, 3500 Marias Ave. (Crooks Rd. to 13 Mile Rd., 2 blocks E.). Royal Oak Coin Club Spring Coin Show. Andrew Parks, P.O. Box 445, Royal Oak, MI 48068, telephone 248/435-2321.

13-15 MILWAUKEE, WI. Four Points Hotel Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 4747 S. Howell Ave. (W. of airport @ S. Layton Ave.). 36th Annual Coin Show held by the South Shore Coin Club. A. Tramte, c/o SSCC, 2368 S. 59th, West Allis, WI 53219, telephone 414/541-7028.

16 MUNDELEIN, IL. Holiday Inn, Rts. 45 & 83. 35th Annual Coin Show sponsored by the Mundelein Coin Club. Show Chairman Dale Grimm, c/o MCC, P.O. Box 725, Mundelein, IL 60060, telephone 847/223-3154.

MAY

7 WOOSTER, OH. Wooster High School Commons, Oldman Rd. Wayne County Coin Club 48th Annual Coin Show. Zody Miller, 140 Miller Rd., Wooster, OH 44691, telephone 330/262-4416.

13 PEKIN, IL. Miller Senior Center, 551 S. 14th St. (half block N. of Pekin

Hospital, across from Pekin Park Lagoon). Tazewell Numismatic Society 2nd Winter Show. Bourse Chairman Dale O. Freidinger, c/o TNS, P.O. Box 696, Pekin, IL 61554, telephone 309/353-6178 or Mike Gallion 309/535-2114.

13-14 GALLATIN, TN. Gallatin Civic Center, 210 Albert Gallatin Ave. Spring Coin Show conducted by the Middle Tennessee Coin Club. Jerry Klein, P.O. Box 1791, Brentwood, TN 37024, telephone 615/673-8983, E-mail CJK31757@cs.com.

JUNE

18 HIAWATHA, IA. Hiawatha Community Center, 80 N. Center Point Rd. 3rd Annual Hiawatha Coin Show sponsored by the Cedar Rapids Coin Club. Brian E. Fanton, P.O. Box 81, Hiawatha, IA 52233-0081, telephone 319/393-1192.

WEST

APRIL

9 SCOTTSDALE, AZ. Elks Lodge, 6398 E. Oak St. Coin, Stamp, Post Card, Sports Card & Collectible Show conducted by the Camelback Collectibles Club. Show Chairman Bob Phelan, P.O. Box 15005, Phoenix, AZ 85060, telephone 480/990-1007.

15-16 FERNDALE, WA. Band Boosters Bingo Shoppe, 5330 LaBounty Dr. Bellingham Coin & Stamp Show sponsored by the Bellingham Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Marya Welch, 2932 E. Sunset Dr., Bellingham, WA 98225, telephone 360/647-1612.

16 SANTA MARIA, CA. Mussell Senior Center, 510 E. Park Ave. Santa Maria Coin Club Coin & Collectible Show. Ed Cohen, P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456, telephone 805/937-1250.

Membership News

21-23 OGDEN, UT. Marriott Hotel, 247 24th St. Ogden Coin Club 28th Annual Northern Utah Coin Show. Chris Robertson, P.O. Box 25957, Salt Lake City, UT 84125, telephone 801/973-2300.

30 ARCADIA, CA. Masonic Temple, 50 W. Duarte Rd. Covina Coin Club 39th Annual Coin-O-Rama. Gene Calvert, P.O. Box 321, Temple City, CA 91780, telephone 626/287-6776.

MAY

7 VALLEJO, CA. Solano County Fairgrounds, Solano County Bldg. Art Exhibit Room, 900 Fairgrounds Dr. (Hwy 37 off I-80). 28th Annual Vallejo Numismatic Society Coin & Collectibles Show. Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428, telephone

510/526-0538 or 707/554-4088.

21 SCOTTSDALE, AZ. Elks Lodge, 6398 E. Oak St. Coin, Stamp, Post Card, Sports Card & Collectible Show conducted by the Camelback Collectibles Club. Show Chairman Bob Phelan, P.O. Box 15005, Phoenix, AZ 85060, telephone 480/990-1007.

21 SPARKS, NV. American Legion Hall, 730 4th St. Coin Show conducted by the Reno Coin Club. RCC, P.O. Box 5178, Reno, NV 89503, telephone 775/746-2180.

19-21 GLENDALE, CA. Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Rd. (near the 2, 5 and 134 Freeways at Glendale Ave. & Verdugo Ave.) GLENPEX, the original Glendale Coin, Stamp & Collectible Expo sponsored by the Inter-

national Coin & Stamp Collectors Society. Bourse Chairman Israel I. Bick, P.O. Box 854, Van Nuys, CA 91408, telephone 818/997-6496, fax 818/988-4337, E-mail ibick@aol.com.

JUNE

11 SCOTTSDALE, AZ. Elks Lodge, 6398 E. Oak St. Coin, Stamp, Post Card, Sports Card & Collectible Show conducted by the Camelback Collectibles Club. Show Chairman Bob Phelan, P.O. Box 15005, Phoenix, AZ 85060, telephone 480/990-1007.

16-18 PRESCOTT, AZ. Ponderosa Plaza, 1316 Iron Springs Rd. Prescott Coin Club 26th Annual Prescott Coin Show. Chairman Michael Wolf, P.O. Box 233, Dewey, AZ 86327, telephone 520/772-7144.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REQUEST FOR LISTING IN *THE NUMISMATIST*

Calendar of Events, published monthly in *The Numismatist*, is a free service reserved for ANA member clubs and organizations. Entries must be received by the Publications Department **at least eight weeks** prior to the cover date of the magazine, and preferably as much as **four months** in advance so announcements can appear in several consecutive issues.

Send completed form to:

***The Numismatist*, Calendar of Events, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279
Fax 719/634-4085**

Sponsoring organization(s) _____ ANA # _____

Name of show _____

Check one: _____ local show _____ regional show _____ national show

Show date(s) _____

Show location _____

Street (or other directions) _____

City _____ State _____

Chairman or other person to be contacted for more show information (*print exactly as you wish it to appear in the calendar*):

Name / Title _____ Telephone (optional) _____

Address _____ E-mail (optional) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership News

CLUB NEWS

The **Central States Numismatic Society** (CSNS) invites exhibitors to participate in its 61st Anniversary Convention on May 4 through 7 at the Minnesota Convention Center in Minneapolis. All exhibitors will receive a limited-edition CSNS/2000 silver round and a ticket to the Saturday evening awards banquet. A 1-ounce gold American Eagle bullion coin will be awarded for the best-of-show exhibit. Other awards will be presented for the best display by a first-time CSNS exhibitor, and most educational exhibit. Participants may enter competitively or non-competitively in eight cate-

gories. First-, second- and third-place winners in each classification will receive 2000-dated 1/2-, 1/4- and 1/10-ounce gold Eagles respectively.

Entry deadline is April 16. Exhibit applications and rules are available from Exhibit Chairmen Ray and Fran Lockwood, 2075 E. Bocoek Rd., Marion, IN 46952-8799, telephone 765/664-6520 or E-mail sunray@comteck.com.

Following the success of his previous showing of numismatic items and memorabilia, **Polish American Numismatic Association** (PANA) member Stan Garczyński has prepared two, new traveling exhibits that again incorporate numismatics and Polish history. Each display consists of 20, 2 x 3-foot frames fea-

turing illustrations, photographs, coins and descriptions relating to the Polish uprising of 1848, and the 700th anniversary of Warsaw.

Dignitaries, including Polish and French Consulate representatives, attended the official opening on August 1, 1999, at Houston's public library. Garczyński's exhibits also were displayed at Texas A & M University and currently are traveling to major cities throughout Texas. The Polish American Congress of Texas awarded Garczyński a plaque in recognition of his efforts to promote Polish history. To obtain an exhibit schedule or for more information, contact PANA at P.O. Box 56829, Chicago, IL 60656-0829, telephone 773/283-7643.



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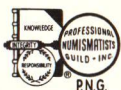
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Membership News

The **Missouri Numismatic Society** (MNS) library, located on the fifth floor of St. Louis County Library headquarters at 1640 S. Lindbergh, now is fully operational. Members are encouraged to request new book titles for purchase. To inquire about the club's lending policy or to learn more about the MNS, Missouri's oldest educational numismatic organization, write to P.O. Box 410652, St. Louis, MO 63141-0652 or E-mail club president Ken Thompson at Kenrthompson@hotmail.com.

California's **Heartland Coin Club** is calling for donations for its annual "Coins for Kids" program. This event has been an overwhelming success in past years, including

activities such as "Cent Search"—young numismatists search a pile for cents to fill a collection book—and a coin design contest. All donations are greatly appreciated; a list of specific items needed for the program is available on request. Contact the "Coins for Kids" Committee at 1393 Kenalan Dr., San Diego, CA 92154.

Back issues of *Errorscope*, the official journal of the **Combined Organizations of Numismatic Error Collectors of America (CONECA)**, are available for purchase. Although copies of early editions are limited, most issues from January 1993 to date are in ample supply. Issues prior to 1992 are \$2 each; more recent issues are \$3.50 per copy, or \$3 each for five or more. Additional postage

is required for orders outside the United States (please enclose postage). Send a list of desired issues to Lee Gong, "Back Issues," 1211 W. College Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95401-5044. Please hold payment until the order is confirmed.

California's **Diablo Numismatic Society** (DNS) has a new mailing address, effective immediately: DNS, P.O. Box 177, Concord, CA 94522-0177. The club continues to meet at the Concord Veterans Memorial Building, 2290 Willow Pass Rd. at Colfax. For more information about the club and its activities, contact the Diablo Numismatic Society at the address above or telephone 925/825-0649.

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OBITUARIES

CHARLES BOOS—LM 146

Charles N. Boos of Delray Beach, Florida, died on February 18. He was 92 years old.

In addition to numismatics, Boos was involved in local community service. He was president and honorary life member of the Boynton Beach Rotary Club and chairman of the Boynton Beach United Fund.

Surviving are his wife of 65 years, Clarice; a daughter, Margaret Pledger; a son, Martin; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

JOSEPH FERRANTELLI— ANA 163322

Joseph Sylvester Ferrantelli of New Orleans died on January 30 as a result of a house fire. He was 80 years old.

A retired department manager of the Federal Reserve Bank of New Orleans, Ferrantelli was a member of the Louisiana Numismatic Association, as well as a charter member and past president of the Crescent City Coin Club. Ferrantelli served as finance chairman at the ANA's 1994 convention in New Orleans.

Ferrantelli is survived by one son and two daughters.

STEVEN LOEWENSTEIN—LM 3494

Steven David Loewenstein died in Seattle, Washington, of leukemia on October 29, 1999. He was 42.

The president of North American Rare Coin Galleries, Inc., and the Numismatic Institute of North America, Loewenstein spent nearly 20 years in numismatics. He also published *The Collector's Advantage Magazine*, a resource journal for the

collectibles enthusiast.

Survivors include his wife, Lisa; 4-year-old son, Zachary; and 18-month-old daughter, Jenna.

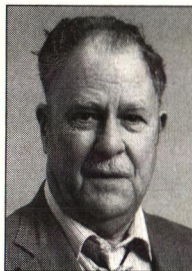
JOHN J. SMIES—LM 424

John J. Smies, past director of the ANA Certification Service and former executive secretary of the Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG), died on January 28 in Manhattan, Kansas. He was 83.

A highly decorated naval veteran of both the Korean and Second World Wars, Smies began coin collecting and dealing following his retirement in 1956. He operated Smies Coin Shop in Courtland, Kansas, and specialized in United States coins and love tokens. At the ANA's 100th Anniversary Convention in Chicago in 1991, Smies took first place in the love token exhibit category.

He received the PNG's Abe Koffsoff Founders Award in 1975. After serving as the administrative head of PNG from 1972 to 1975, Smies headed the ANA Certification Service from 1980 to 1982. The Association presented him with its Medal of Merit in 1982.

"John brought a lot of respect to the ANA's certification service," says ANA Executive Director Edward C. Rochette. "The ANA had established its coin grading and authentication service, but it was John Smies who put it in order for us. He was a wonderful gentleman and a respected numismatist."



John J. Smies

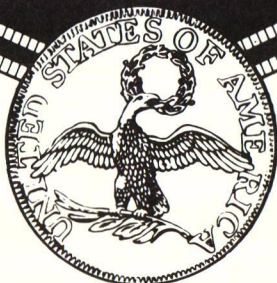
Smies also was a member of the Central States Numismatic Society, Love Token Society and Solomon Valley Coin Club of Beloit, Kansas, and past president of the NCK Coin Club of Concordia, Kansas.

Smies is survived by his wife, Gladys; a son, David; a daughter, Linda; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

- R 185975 **Joseph Amrhein**, Midlothian, VA (joined 7-99)
- R 34735 **Fred D. Archer**, Ottumwa, IA (joined 1-59)
- R 86180 **Paul H. Borack**, Sunland, CA (joined 1-75)
- R 64835 **Roger B. Dillon**, Magalia, CA (joined 1-70)
- R 185589 **George Durocher**, New Bedford, MA (joined 6-99)
- LM 113 **Lewis K. Ferguson**, Ames, IA (joined 7-34)
- R 183165 **R.B. Gaffga**, Waco, TX (joined 1-99)
- R 50728 **H.H. Hanisee Jr.**, Vicksburg, MS (joined 1-64)
- R 17991 **Arthur W. Hirschy**, Mooresville, IN (joined 1-50)
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- G 14871 **Albert Kadunce**, Butler, PA (joined 1-47)
- R 57259 **Stanley H. Klaniecki**, Oregon, OH (joined 1-66)
- R 163827 **Ronald R. Lund**, Merced, CA (joined 4-94)
- LM 2288 **Emilio A. Mattia**, Providence, RI (joined 3-76)
- LM 2043 **Howard J. Nelson**, Kent, WA (joined 6-66)
- R 127589 **William T. Rickard**, Mercer, PA (joined 7-85)
- R 41966 **Richard J. Tafelski**, Bodfish, CA (joined 1-61)
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Standish Barry's Threepence

continued from page 394

the Battle of North Point brought together three famous Maryland silversmiths in defense of their country: Standish Barry; John Chalmers, then age 64; and John's brother James Chalmers.

Barry the Citizen

BARRY'S NAME APPEARED infrequently in public records. Researchers have uncovered brief mentions in newspapers; tax, church and census records; and other official documents. On October 11, 1788, for example, a Baltimore County marriage license was issued to Standish Barry and Nancy Thompson ("Nancy" apparently is a clerical error, as family records show that on October 10, 1788, Barry married Agnes Thompson). Family records, as well as the First Presbyterian Church register, indicate that six children were born of this union.

Barry apparently was involved in a variety of public activities, among them the construction of a town clock. On February 2, 1790, the *Maryland Journal* printed a very long notice for a lottery to raise funds to erect a town clock in the courthouse. It was to be built by David Evans, to whom Barry had been apprenticed. In the *Journal* of September 2, 1790, a committee of clockmakers—Barry and five others—favorably reported on the project, which included a 700-pound bell that could be heard 4 miles away when striking the hour or sounding a fire alarm.

The 1790 Maryland census provides no information regarding Standish Barry; however, it does list a Standish *Bary*, whose household consisted of four free, white males of 16 years and upward, including the

head of the family; no white males less than 16; two free, white females; and one slave. This spelling also appeared in a 1798 tax record. I suspect "Bary" and "Barry" are one and the same.

An entry in Sill's notebook indicated that Barry purchased Lot 83 on the north corner of Gay Street from John Griffith. This, together with information in the 1796 *Baltimore City Directory*, establish Barry's early residence as 20 North Gay Street. Tax records for 1798 list him as property owner. The lot is described as 25 x 160 feet; improved by a brick, one-story home, 25 x 20 feet; and a separate, brick kitchen, 12 x 10 feet. Commissioners valued the property at \$1,800. According to city directories, Barry remained at this location until sometime after 1816.

The 1800 census establishes Barry as a resident of Baltimore City. His household included three males under the age of 10, three males age 10 to 16, one male age 16 to 26, one male age 26 to 45, one female under the age of 10, one female age 10 to 16, two females age 16 to 26, and one female age 26 to 45. No slaves were reported.

For unknown reasons, in 1810 Barry became a merchant with a store on the northwest corner of Baltimore and Frederick Streets. The 1814 and 1816 *Baltimore City Directories* list him as a grocer at 34 Baltimore Street. He apparently belonged to the Friendship Fire Company for a number of years and was elected a director in 1817.

The 1822-1823 *City Directory* lists him as a sugar refiner at Duke Street side, west of Albemarle in Old Town. The directory gives his residence as Queen North opposite President, also in Old Town. During this period, Barry was a member of

the First Branch Baltimore City Council from the fourth ward. Almost 60 years old, he had yet to find long-term success in business.

According to Pleasants and Sill, he apparently discontinued his entrepreneurial endeavors after he was elected to a three-year term as sheriff of Baltimore County on October 4, 1824. Barry announced his candidacy for the post in the July 2 issue of *American and Commercial Daily Advertiser*. It seems to have been a bitterly fought contest. In September a number of letters appeared in the *Advertiser*, and charges and countercharges regarding Revolutionary War service, honesty and patriotism were tossed back and forth.

Several letters supporting Barry claim he was living in a state of poverty and that Baltimore citizens should elect him to provide him a means of support. One letter, submitted by an anonymous writer identified as "IMPARTIALITY," stated that "it is well known that had Col. Barry spent his time in his shop, that he devoted to public business, he would not now want an office from his fellow citizens to support him."

In a heartfelt plea, a correspondent identified as "CINCINNATUS" wrote that supporters of Towson have "with the greatest acrimony, turn[ed] their weapons of hostility against an inoffensive aged citizen, whose head has whitened amid the struggle of adverse fortune, which though it has reduced him to indignance, never could tear from him the approbation and esteem of all good men." CINCINNATUS asked the citizenry to show their gratitude by "rewarding a warm and devoted champion of her rights, when his cheek has been furrowed by calamity and grief, and his head blanched by

the wintery hand of adversity.”

Lieutenant Colonel Barry was cited in *Chronicles of Baltimore* as a member of the military committee that met Marquis de Lafayette during his 1824 visit to Maryland. It was quite an affair, involving a number of dignitaries, among them the mayor and the governor. The celebration honoring this hero of the American Revolution included a speeches, a parade, and a visit to Fort McHenry.

The 1829 *Baltimore Directory* lists Barry as “late sheriff” residing at 82 High Street, east side in Old Town. The 1831 and 1833 directories give his home as 82 North High Street. Barry did not appear in the directory for 1835-36; from this Pleasants and Sill surmise he moved to Newport in Herkimer County, New York, to

live with his son Standish Barry Jr. There Barry died after a long illness on November 6, 1844, at age 81.

The Barry Threepence

THE BARRY THREEPENCE holds a special place in United States numismatic history. It is one of the few silver colonial issues actually struck in the United States, and the only silver coin produced after the federal government became a reality and before the national mint began production in 1792. Pleasants and Sill note:

By this time (1790) the constitution had been adopted reserving to the federal government the exclusive right to coin money, so that the issue of a private coin even for local circulation as a medium of exchange is difficult to understand. The date,

July 4, 1790, suggests the possibility that it may have been issued merely to commemorate this Fourth of July, but tradition ascribes to it a wider use.

Information about this piece is based primarily on conjecture. Most of the details are derived from its design. Crosby describes “The Baltimore Town Threepence” thus:

OBVERSE.

Device, — A head, facing left, within a plain circle.

Legend, — BALTIMORE · TOWN · JULY · 4 · 90 ·

REVERSE

Inscription, — THREE PENCE within a plain circle.

Legend, — STANDISH · BARRY · entwined in a beaded network.

Borders and edge, — Milled. Size, — 9. Weight, — 13 grains.

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In his *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*, noted author/researcher Walter Breen commented on the threepence:

The exact occasion for manufacture of his Threepence coin is unknown, most probably the opening of his new store on Baltimore St. (Brogdon). All known specimens show some degree of die failure, planchets are crude and mostly too narrow to accommodate the entire design. Their weight standard is apparently identical to that of Chalmers. Most survivors are in low grades.

My own review of H.C. Brogdon's 1938 article in *The Numismatist*, entitled "Notes on the Maryland, Annapolis and Baltimore Coins," does not support Breen's contention that the threepence was struck in conjunction with the opening of a new

store on Baltimore Street. Brogdon did not mention a new business location for Barry in 1790, nor does he suggest why the coin was struck.

A Guide Book of United States Coins (the "Red Book") offers this explanation: "The precise date on this piece, July 4, 90, may indicate Barry intended to commemorate Independence Day, but there are no records to substantiate this belief. The profile bust on the obverse is probably that of George Washington." This again is conjecture that has been retold so often it almost is accepted as fact.

In describing the Barry threepence (Lot 433 in the New Netherlands Coin Company's 60th Public Auction Sale in December 1968), cataloger John J. Ford Jr. kept to the facts:

An obverse die break on this piece, running from rim through N of TOWN, diagonally across bust to nose, hence to inner circle, and then along outside left points of I to a denticle, undoubtedly accounts for its great rarity. (Not many more impressions could be taken from a die almost broken into two, particularly when that die was apparently one of a pair used in conjunction with an open collar.)

The specimens (for which weights are listed in the table) vary from 12 to 14.9 grains, with no two coins having the same weight. For purposes of comparison, the weight of the first half dime, as authorized by the Act of April 2, 1792, was 1.35 grams (20.8 grains) with a fineness of .8924. The silver threepence of George III weighed 1.4138 grams

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(21.817 grains) with a fineness of .925. The uncirculated Chalmers silver threepence in the Eliasberg sale, Lot 47, is listed as 11.7 grains (no fineness is provided). Thus, percentage-wise, Barry's silver threepence has a weight similar to the half dime and Chalmers' threepence.

We have no physical proof that Barry contracted with local or state officials to produce coinage; therefore, his threepence likely was a private venture. We can assume Barry did not possess the tools or machinery associated with a significant minting process. Barry likely cut rather than punched planchets from hand-hammered sheets of silver, in the same manner he hammered or pressed silver into sheets for making silver trays or other items. This would account for the variations in size and weight of the struck coins. The dies, which evidently have been lost to history, probably were Barry's creation. He would have had a forge, punches and engraving tools, and a knowledge of metals acquired during his term as apprentice. The dies could have been manufactured in the Greek manner of separate dies, or the Roman manner of hinged dies . . . or he may have fabricated a pair of iron pincer dies.

Whatever the process, something appears to have gone wrong in the hardening of the dies, and they became brittle. After striking a relatively small number of pieces, the dies began to fail, as indicated by small die breaks on some examples. Ultimately the dies broke after a limited number of coins were produced. Discouraged by the lack of success, he likely decided not to continue manufacturing coinage.

The significance of the obverse portrait, the reason for using a precise date, the method of strike and

the purpose of issue remain unanswered. With regard to Barry, I gained a closer view of a man who loved his country and was, at the very least, a page in its history. A letter from General Stewart to Colonel Stewart, dated November 16, 1844, eloquently summarized the man: "Col Barry was a brave man, and like all brave men, remarkable for his kindness of heart, forgiveness of injuries, and inexhaustible benevolence." I am glad his threepence brought me in touch with him after more than 200 years. •

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A native of Maryland, Arthur Cawmer pursues a variety of numismatic interests, particularly Hard Times tokens. He is a recipient of the ANA's Catherine Sheehan Literary Award for U.S. Paper Money Studies. Cawmer is compiling pedigrees of Standish Barry threepence and would like to correspond with anyone having details about specific specimens.

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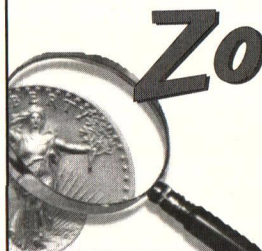
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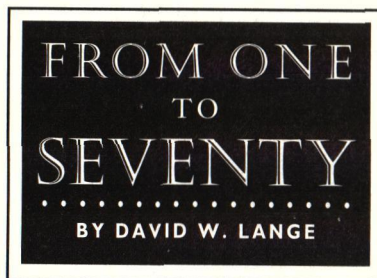
WITH ALL THE excitement recently generated by the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters™ Program, this seems like an opportune time to examine one of this country's longest-running coin series. Originally conceived in 1932 as a one-year-only, circulating commemorative for the bicentennial of George Washington's birth, this type was retained when quarter dollar production resumed two years later. John Flanagan's models were not the first choice of the selection committee, nor that of the Federal Commission of Fine Arts; however, Treasury Secretary Andrew W. Mellon's approval of Flanagan's design was not successfully challenged.

Only a few dates and varieties carry any significant premium in circulated grades, so I will provide only a brief commentary on their grading. The first signs of wear on the obverse appear on Washington's cheek and the hair around his ear. The reverse wears first on the eagle's breast and the upper portion of its legs. Dullness in these areas is an indication of wear; slight differences in coloration on the worn points will be evident as the coin is turned under a light.

These same high points in the coin's design are critical when grading uncirculated pieces. Abrasions, contact marks and hairline scratches are quite prevalent in these areas. Such flaws easily can be missed when they are located within the "busy" portions of the design, such as the wreath or lettering. Any detracting elements on Washington's face are particularly crucial in determining

the grade of a mint-state coin.

The broad, open field of the obverse is another area where marks



and abrasions can have quite an impact on grading. These blemishes sometimes are obscured by toning, but they likely will be revealed by the more intense light used by professional graders. A 75- to 100-watt incandescent lamp, placed at a distance of 12 to 18 inches in an otherwise dimmed room, will replicate these conditions.

Because of the length of this series, there is no one rule regarding availability in gem condition. Generally speaking, however, issues before the late 1950s are fairly abundant across all grades through Mint State(MS)-65. Of course, the key dates are more scarce in proportion to their overall survival in mint state.

Among issues that are difficult to

locate at the gem level are the 1932-D, 1935-D and 1936-D. San Francisco Mint quarter dollars from about 1944 through 1954, while common in gem condition, usually were coined from severely worn dies, producing mushy details. Uncirculated silver issues from about 1959 through 1964 are extremely common, yet several of these are quite difficult to find in gem condition. Typically, Philadelphia Mint coins from this period are more available in high grades than Denver Mint pieces, the latter often being quite heavily marked.

The copper-nickel clad coins minted since 1965 are a story in themselves. Through 1973, they typically feature incomplete strikes, since the relief of the hubs used to create working dies was too high to compensate for the much harder alloy. Beginning in 1974, the United States Mint began a series of hub revisions that both sharpened the design elements and lowered overall relief. This program really gained momentum in the 1990s, when the Mint sacrificed all pretense of sculptural art in favor of very low-relief coins that almost were guaranteed to have full strikes every time.

Beginning with the clad era, the quality of production at the Denver Mint surpassed that of Philadelphia; gem examples of the former's coins are always more available than those from the eastern facility. Overall, however, clad coins are scarcer in high grades than the silver pieces that preceded them. The hobby only now is beginning to recognize this fact, though most collectors still favor the older coins. •



Since 1974, sculptural art has been sacrificed in favor of consistent, full strikes of comparatively low relief.

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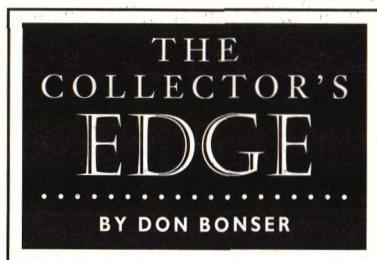
Lee Rosenbloom
ANA 184258

Don't Play with Fire

THE ROLLING STONES sang, "Don't play with me, 'cause you're playing with fire..." Although I don't think Mick and Keith were thinking of PVC or coin cleaning when they penned those words, the sentiment certainly is valid with relation to our hobby.

Q. You regularly mention albums in your column. I collect A.D.-dated copper coins of the world by date, starting with the earliest-known, 1481 Brabant (no, I don't have one). For preservation purposes, I have been using 2 x 2-inch plastic holders (with mylar windows) and a cleaner called Blue Ribbon™ (1,1,1-tri-

chloroethane). Assuming the cleaner has removed all contaminants from the coin and that the holder is inert



and airtight, is it still important not to use PVC [polyvinyl chloride] album pages?

—D.D., via Internet

A. Yes, avoid using PVC album pages at all costs. Even though your coin theoretically is free of contamination and stored in an inert, airtight environment, the plasticizer used to make the album pages soft and pliable can and will, over time, make its way through all supposed barriers. It's like sitting next to the smoking section in a restaurant. Although no one is puffing away in your area, if you sit there long enough, some noticeable smoke will invade your space. In much the same way, if given enough time, PVC can damage your stored coins.

At this point, I'd like to offer a word of advice regarding cleaning

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John Schwartz
ANA 91126

products. The coin cleaner you mention usually is fine for old, uncirculated copper. However, it may change the color and/or appearance of certain lightly circulated or uncirculated coins. Use the product with caution, and when in doubt, as with any coin cleaner, don't use it at all!

Q. I have been storing silver rounds in square, plastic tubes for about 15 years. I recently noticed that the rounds in the tube have started to turn yellow. I continue to put a fresh Metal Safe™ capsule in the safe where the tubes are kept, but it evidently has not been powerful enough to preserve the pieces in the hot, humid summers of the South.

I have purchased another type of tube and a silver protection strip, and I intend to take the rounds out of the

tubes, clean them up and put them in new tubes. However, I would like your advice on how to eradicate the existing yellow tarnish before I make this change. Also, what steps do you recommend to prevent this from happening again? (The summers in my part of the country last from May until September and often prove troublesome with regard to my coin preservation efforts.)

—E.P., via Internet

A. My best advice would be not to clean your silver rounds at all, but do try to prevent further oxidation. Because the pieces are bullion and not coins, their value is much more closely tied to the price of an ounce of silver; they should be worth more or less the same, cleaned or not. With silver coins (like rolls of uncir-

culated Morgan dollars), many cleaning methods only reduce the value of the pieces.

Metal Safe is a good product, but I am not familiar with the silver protection strip you mention. My recommendation would be to avoid further oxidation (tarnish) by using more than one Metal Safe capsule at a time and by minimizing the temperature and humidity where the rounds are stored.

Send your questions or comments regarding numismatic preservation to me in care of *The Numismatist*, 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279, fax 719/634-4085, E-mail anaedi@money.org. Keep in mind that your observations may be printed here or elsewhere in this journal, and that they may be edited for length and clarity. •

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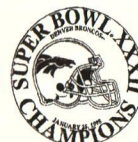
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BY BRIAN A. SILLIMAN

Struck Counterfeit 1943 Copper Cent

Just when you thought it was safe to open up a numismatic publication without reading about 1943 copper cents, the ANA Authentication Bureau (ANAAB) brings you this report of a deceptive counterfeit. (I will not bore you by explaining how to conduct a "magnet test" or look for signs of date alteration. I would



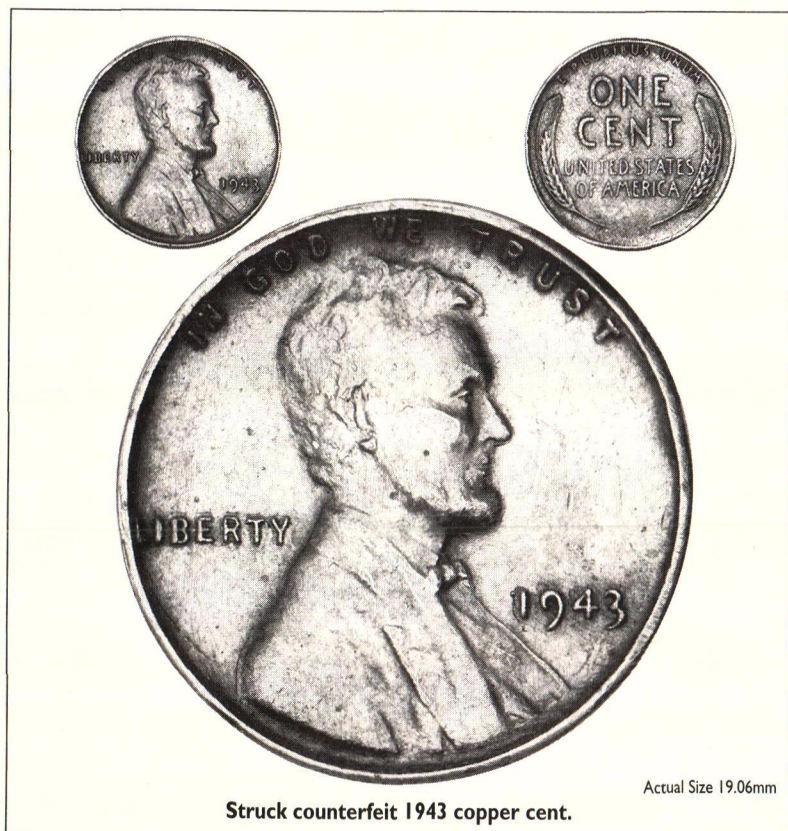
Horizontal toolmark extends from rim across base of Lincoln's bust. Scratches appear below and around the date, where someone attempted to determine if numerals were altered or coin was plated.

hope you know about these already!)

Following the media report last year of a woman who inadvertently spent her husband's rare, genuine 1943 copper cent (a story that ultimately proved false), ANAAB received hundreds of telephone calls and submissions from people believing they had similar rarities. In most cases, the specimens in question were steel cents that had been plated with copper, but we did see a sur-



Die crack and toolmarks are visible along rim below LIBERTY.



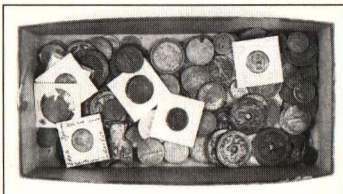
Struck counterfeit 1943 copper cent.

Actual Size 19.06mm



Details of wheat ears are "mushy."

Support the Hobby by Protecting It



MORE THAN 520 counterfeits, fantasies, replicas and alterations (some of which are shown above), recently were donated to the ANA Museum by a hobby-minded dealer in Pennsylvania, thus permanently removing them from the marketplace and augmenting the ANA's counterfeit detection seminars. The ANA greatly appreciates this continued support of its efforts to educate collectors and suppress counterfeit and altered coinage.

prising number of date alterations.

However, the counterfeit described here was struck from one-to-one transfer dies, a method of manufacture previously undocumented for this coin. The coin's diameter, weight and specific gravity fall within United States Mint specifications.

The counterfeit dies most likely were produced using the "impact" method. In this process, an annealed, blank die is driven into a securely mounted host coin. This is repeated with different host coins until the desired details are imparted to the die. The die is then tempered, or hardened, with the application of heat. Impact dies generally are of poor quality. Because the process destroys the host coin, rare specimens are not used. (In this case, the host coin would have been the common

and very hard 1943 steel cent.)

This specimen appears to have been artificially circulated. The edges are very sharp, similar to those of a modern proof cent, but have been filed in some areas, possibly to create the more beveled look of a genuine business strike.

On the obverse, a prominent, horizontal toolmark extends from the rim across the base of Lincoln's bust. A die crack is visible below the L in LIBERTY, with a group of toolmarks to the left near the rim. On the reverse, the detail in the wheat ears is "mushy," eroding toward the rim.

Submit suspect coins (but please, no more copper-plated 1943 steel cents!) to the ANA Authentication Bureau, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279. •

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COIN #	COUNTRY	DATE/MM	DENOM.	VARIETY	<input type="checkbox"/> REEXAM <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSFER	Authentication ⁺ Plus	ISSUE CERTIFICATE TO	OWNER'S VALUE

TOTAL INSURED VALUE

(See additional insurance worksheet on back.)

\$

Authentication ⁺Plus

An additional service that provides data not offered in the standard certification procedure, the following evaluations include, but are not limited to: rarity, general value, weight, diameter, specific gravity, variety, recommended references, surface characteristics, reflectivity, originality, type of counterfeit, reed count, etc. See reverse for more information.

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EACH ADDITIONAL ITEM \$1.00 ea.:		\$ _____
ADDITIONAL INSURANCE:		\$ _____
(Required if value exceeds \$1,000 or \$5,000. See worksheet on back.)		
TOTAL THIS ORDER:		\$ _____

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

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GENERAL

The American Numismatic Association Authentication Bureau:

- Renders an opinion whether a numismatic item is genuine or otherwise, including authenticating of all coins (U.S., foreign, ancient) tokens, medals, and paper money (including obsolete U.S.).
- Issues a photo certificate with a registration number on genuine items.
- Cannot determine valuation of items—values must be supplied by the submitter.
- Provides reference attributions if possible.
- Uses its network of numismatic experts on a consulting basis for those items requiring additional examination and opinions.
- Provides counterfeit diagnostics on non-genuine specimens.
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- Provides additional information on membership services.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Please submit items in easy access holders. Mark holders with matching submission numbers.
- Fee schedule: \$23 (\$28 nonmember) per item for specimens valued up to \$4,999 each. For items valued at \$5,000 or more the cost is \$40 (\$48 nonmember) per specimen. Genuine and counterfeit determinations will be at full charge. Sufficient return postage must be included with each submission. Postage only will be billed if no decision is reached.
- ANA will provide free insurance up to \$1,000 per item valued under \$5,000 (average). \$5,000 worth of free insurance, per item will be provided for each item valued at \$5,000 or more. Shipments valued higher are charged \$1.00 per thousand dollars of excess valuation. Fill out one Excess Insurance worksheet per order (see below). This insurance covers only the period in which it is in ANA's possession. (See #7 under ANA's Liability)
- The ANA fee structure is predicated in part on accurate valuation of coins for insurance purposes. Overvaluation, even within the stated limits, raises costs and may result in a rate increase.
- Payment is due in full with order. Items will not be processed until payment is received. Allow 4 – 6 weeks turn-around time.
- A reexamination requires submission of the certified item and the certificate.
- Transfers require submission of original certificate (ANAAB will not reissue certificates bearing grade opinions).

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- A photo certificate will be issued for newly authenticated items and for reexamination and transfer of previously authenticated items submitted to ANACS prior to August 1, 1990.

EXCESS INSURANCE WORKSHEET

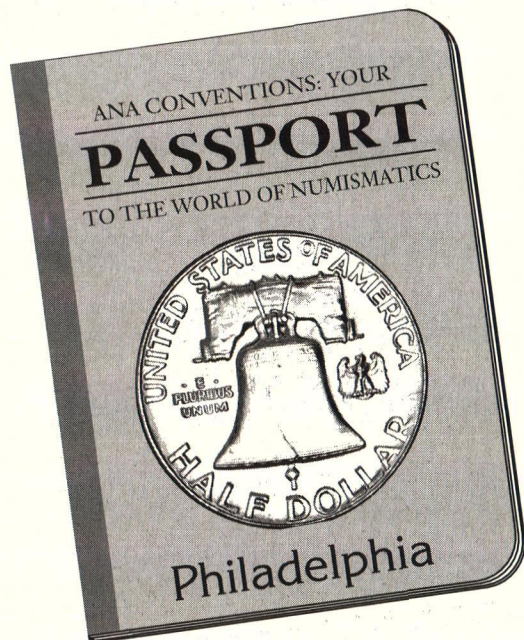
1. TOTAL "OWNER'S VALUE" OF ORDER.	A \$ _____
2. A. NUMBER OF ITEMS SUBMITTED _____ x \$1,000	\$ _____
2. B. NUMBER OF ITEMS SUBMITTED _____ x \$5,000	\$ _____
2. C. ADD LINES 2A & 2B FOR TOTAL OF ANA'S FREE INSURANCE	B \$ _____
3. IF A IS LESS THAN B, WRITE 0 AND STOP HERE. IF B IS LESS THAN A, SUBTRACT IT FROM A AND MULTIPLY THE BALANCE BY .001.	\$ _____
	X .001
4. THIS IS YOUR EXCESS INSURANCE FEE	\$ _____

EXAMPLES

	A <u>\$35,500</u>		A <u>\$63,000</u>
45 x \$1,000	B <u>\$45,000</u>	45 x \$1,000	B <u>\$45,000</u>
	\$ 0		\$18,000
	x .001		x .001
	Excess insurance fee		\$18.00

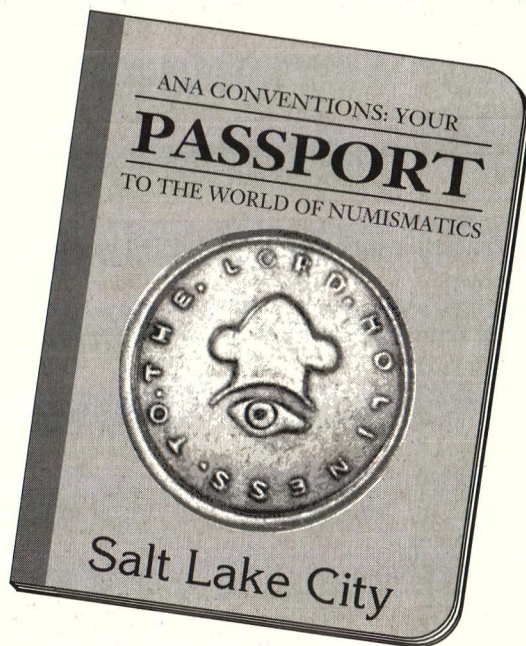
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Advertising Rates and Information

THE NUMISMATIST is a controlled-circulation, educational journal published monthly and distributed to all American Numismatic Association (ANA) members as a membership benefit. Circulation is currently 27,500, and each issue averages 120 pages.

Ad Size	Ad Dimensions		Ad Frequency			
	INCHES	PICAS	1 TIME	3 TIMES	6 TIMES	12 TIMES
Full page	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{16}$	38 x 48.6	\$524	\$493	\$473	\$452
Half Page	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ x 3 $\frac{1}{16}$	38 x 23.6	277	267	251	236
Quarter Page	3 x 3 $\frac{1}{16}$	18 x 23.6	143	133	128	123
Display Classified	2 x 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	12 x 10.6	92	88	82	77

GENERAL INFORMATION

Contracts are available for 3-, 6- and 12-time placement. Frequency will be consecutive unless otherwise scheduled. Page position can be requested for regular advertisements, but cannot be guaranteed. No advertisements will be accepted from minors unless accompanied by a statement of financial responsibility signed by a parent or legal guardian. In keeping with the Hobby Protection Act, advertisements for reproductions or imitations of numismatic items must clearly state that they are not original items. Photographs of these items must show they have been marked with the word "COPY" and must include the date of manufacture. *The Numismatist* specifically reserves the right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, or to decline any advertisement in part or in whole.

PREFERRED PLACEMENT

Preferred placement of ads is available for 20 percent above the rate for regular advertisements. Preferred-placement ads are positioned in the first quarter of the magazine, as far forward as possible.

GUARANTEED PLACEMENT

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DEADLINE

To ensure insertion in the desired issue, copy must be received by the 15th of the month (cover ads must be received by the 5th of the month), seven weeks preceding the issue's cover date. Ad copy may be changed each issue, but if new copy is not received from contract advertisers by the deadline, the previous month's ad will be repeated.

ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

Ad copy must be legible and not included in the body of a letter or other transmission. New ad copy cannot be accepted over the telephone. The name and ANA number of the firm's principal officer must appear in all advertisements. Requests for photography of numismatic items will be billed at prevailing national rates. Display classified advertisements will be placed under the classification most closely related to the ad's subject. All display classified ads appear without illustrations or logos.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy in all display advertising. Proofs of full-, half- and quarter-page ads will be provided for review of format and typography. At that time, ad revisions may be requested. Advertisers may be charged for extensive changes requested after deadline. The ANA is not responsible for any errors or omissions noted following the advertiser's approval of the advertisement.

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Contract cancellation requires notice seven weeks prior to the issue's cover date. Cancelled contracts will be rebilled at the applicable rate.

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Advertisers are required to be members of the American Numismatic Association and must submit the name and ANA membership number of owners and/or principal officers of the firm, as well as one banking and three business references.

REMITTANCE/CREDIT POLICY

Remittance is payable to "American Numismatic Association." Credit will be extended to contract advertisers only. A 5-percent discount will be given to contract advertisers for payment made in advance. A monthly service charge of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ percent will be applied to balances unpaid over 30 days. Payment must accompany advertisements submitted by non-contract advertisers. Advertising contracts may be suspended if account balances are 90 days past due.

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BY ROBERT W. HOGE

The *Great Britain* was the creation of a great engineer, the multi-talented genius Isambard Kingdom Brunel (1806-59). Besides this wondrous ship, his remarkable accomplishments include the first tunnel under the River Thames; design

and construction of London's Great Western railway and its namesake, the transatlantic steam-packet *Great Western*; the first futuristic suspension bridge; Paddington Railway Station; the first prefabricated military hospital; and the largest of all steam/sailing ships, the S.S. *Great Eastern*, which laid the transatlantic telegraph cable.

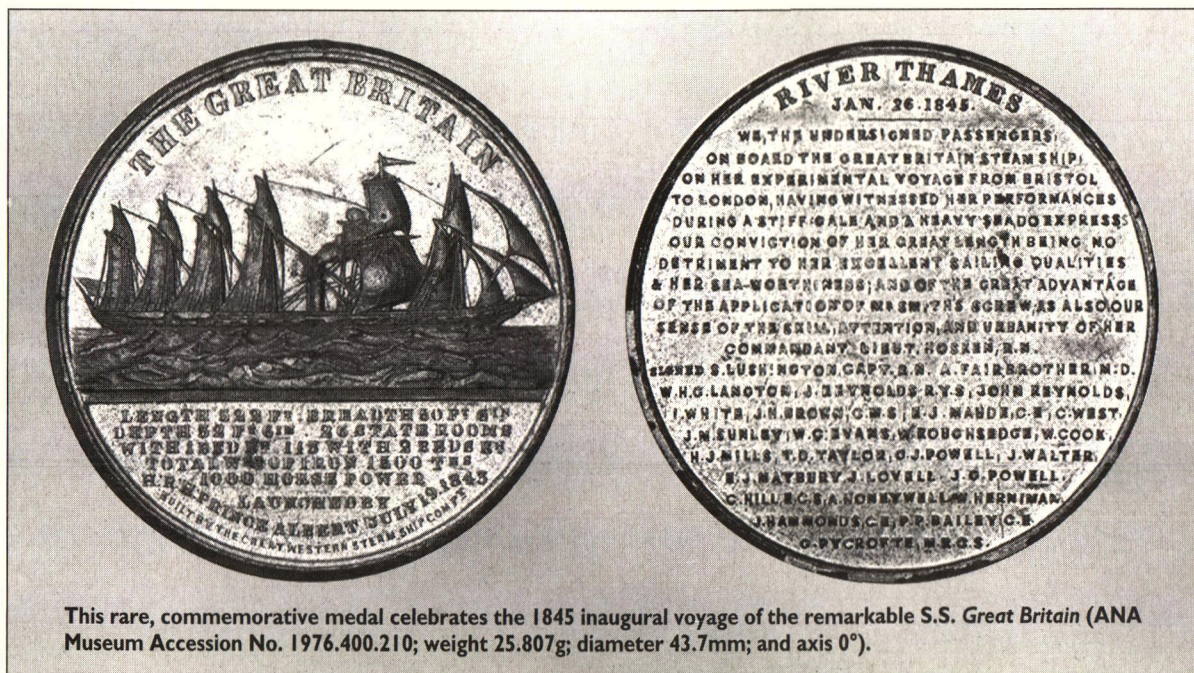
Launched in July 1843, Brunel's *Great Britain* was the wonder of her time, featuring a host of innovations in maritime architecture. She was the greatest ship of her day in size, structure and design features. She was the first sizable, propeller-driven ship to have an iron hull and watertight compartments. Mounted with six masts, the *Great Britain* was rigged entirely of iron, offering far less headwind resistance than the rigging of other ships. Five of the masts were attached to hinges so they could be lowered to lessen re-

sistance still further.

This ship originated the tradition of the great ocean liners. More than 320 feet long and 50 feet wide, with a weight of 1,930 tons (empty), the *Great Britain* was outfitted as a luxurious passenger vessel. Travelers were lodged in 139 cabins (26 of which were elaborate, first-class singles) and in steerage. The ship must have presented passengers with an amazing vision of the future.

The *Great Britain* medal celebrates the ship's maiden voyage from Bristol to London on January 23 to 26, 1845. This remarkable trip was a major news event. After the voyage, the appreciative passengers presented the captain with a testimonial to his "skill, attention and urbanity" and the marvelous performance of the ship in stormy seas.

Produced by J. Davis, the medal featured on its obverse an image of the strange-looking ship, along with



its specifications and other data. The reverse displayed a portion of the passengers' testimonial and their names. The inscription on the obverse reads:

THE GREAT BRITAIN/LENGTH
322 FT. BREADTH 50 FT 6 IN/
DEPTH 52 FT 6 IN. 26 STATE-
ROOMS/WITH 1 BED EH 113 WITH
2 BEDS EH/ TOTAL WHT OF IRON
1500 TNS/ 1000 HORSEPOWER/
LAUNCHED BY/ H.R.H: PRINCE
ALBERT JULY 19. 1843/ BUILT BY
THE GREAT WESTERN STEAM
SHIP COMPY.

The 22-line reverse inscription reads in part:

RIVER THAMES/JAN. 26. 1845/
WE, THE UNDERSIGNED PASSEN-
GERS, / ON BOARD THE GREAT
BRITAIN STEAM SHIP,/ON HER
EXPERIMENTAL VOYAGE FROM
BRISTOL / TO LONDON, HAVING
WITNESSED HER PERFORMANCES
/DURING A STIFF GALE AND A
HEAVY SEA, DO EXPRESS/ OUR
CONVICTION OF HER GREAT
LENGTH BEING NO / DETRI-
MENT TO HER EXCELLENT SAIL-
ING QUALITIES/& HER SEA-
WORTHINESS; AND OF THE
GREAT ADVANTAGE/OF THE AP-
PLICATION OF MR. SMITH'S
SCREW; AS ALSO OUR / SENSE OF
THE SKILL, ATTENTION, AND UR-
BANITY OF HER / COMMANDANT
LIEUT. HOSKEN, R.N. / SIGNED
S. LUSHINGTON CAPT. R.N.
A FAIRBROTHER, M.D. / W.H.G.
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PYCROFTE, M.R.C.S.

Those who bought the medals must have had the exhilarating feel-

ing of participating in a new world of progress. *Great Britain* continued to be a notable vessel and traveled more than a million miles. Her first commercial voyage on the Liverpool-to-New York run was in August and September of 1845, but she ran aground on the coast of Ireland in 1846. Unfortunately, the *Great Western Steam Ship Company* could not afford repairs.

After a year of inactivity, the *Great Britain* was sold to Gibbs, Bright and Company of Liverpool and used as an emigrant ship to Australia for more than 20 years. She completed 32 round-trip voyages, each averaging 120 days (near record time for the 19th century).

From 1855 to 1857, *Great Britain* was commandeered as a troop ship, carrying soldiers to combat in the Crimean War and the Indian "Mutiny." Later, she was converted to strictly a sailing ship, economically carrying Welsh coal to San Francisco via Cape Horn. On her third trip, however, she sustained damage and was forced to take shelter in the Falkland Islands.

Once again, repairs proved too costly, and the ship was sold. The Falkland Islands Company bought this amazing vessel to use as a floating storage shed for wool! In 1937 she was beached in the Falklands and abandoned for 33 years.

Resurrected by the S.S. *Great Britain* Project, the stalwart ship was floated back to England, arriving at her home port 127 years to the day after her launch at Brunel's Great Western Dock. "The Ship that Shrank the World" now is docked at the Maritime Heritage Center in Bristol, England. Donations and admissions fund the preservation of this splendid relic. Astonishingly, its iron hull still is intact, although it is

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deteriorating. Brunel's engines have been replicated, and the entire ship is being painstakingly returned to its Victorian splendor.

A basic reference for the *Great Britain* medal is Laurence Brown's *Catalogue of British Historical Medals 1837-1901, The Reign of Queen Victoria* (London: Seaby, 1987), even though the piece (No. 2210) is not fully described or accurately transcribed. Ewan C.B. Corlett's *The Iron Ship: The Story of Brunel's SS Great Britain*, (London: Conway Maritime Press Ltd., 1990, rev. ed.) provides interesting information. Isambard Brunel's biography of his father, *The Life of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Civil Engineer* (Newton Abbot: David & Charles, Ltd., 1971; reprint of London: Longmans Green, ed. of 1870), is a valuable resource, as is Richard Gould-Adams' *Return of the Great Britain* (London: Weidenfeld and Nicholson, 1976).

I urge readers to consider contributing to this truly worthwhile project. Information and donations can be handled via the web site www.ssgreatbritain.com, or by writing to S.S. *Great Britain*, Great Western Dock, Gas Ferry Rd., Bristol BS1 6TY, United Kingdom. For their assistance with this article, I wish to thank Jean C. Young, archivist/librarian of the S.S. *Great Britain* Project, and the S.S. *Great Britain* Maritime Heritage Centre. •

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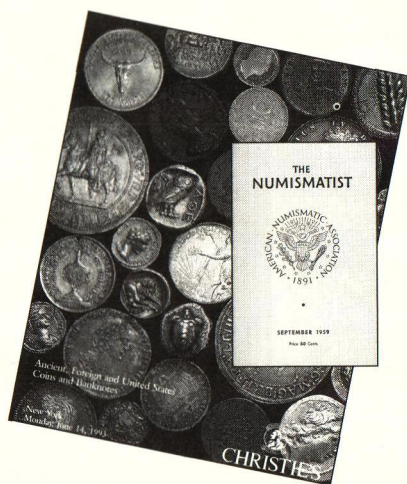
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Previously offered only to members of Friends of the Library/Libris in Socii (FOLLIS), the ANA Library Mail-Bid Sale now is open to all ANA members through the end of National Coin Week (April 16-22). Items available for sale include duplicate numismatic books, periodicals and auction catalogs. Proceeds from the sale will be used to improve member services in the world's largest, numismatic circulating library. (Sale listings are available on the ANA's website, at www.money.org; printed copies are available by mail upon request.)

Participants can specify a maximum amount, as well as authorize Library staff to increase bids on specific items by 5 or 10 percent, if necessary, to obtain desired lots. Bids will be date-stamped upon receipt. In the event of matching offers at the close of the sale, the earliest submission will be honored. Submit bids to ANA Library Mail-Bid Sale, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279; fax 719/632-5208; or E-mail library@money.org.

A 1943-S copper-alloy Lincoln cent set a new price record, selling at auction for \$115,000 on February 6. New York dealer Anthony Terranova placed the record-setting bid. According to published reports, Terranova purchased the coin for an anonymous client.

The San Francisco Mint error was part of the Dr. Jon Kardatzke Col-



Among the items offered in the ANA Library sale are back issues of *The Numismatist* and catalogs from major auction houses.

lection, offered at the Ira and Larry Goldberg Coins and Collectibles sale in Los Angeles. The sale broke several numismatic records: for any example of the 1943 Lincoln cent struck on a copper-alloy planchet, for any Lincoln cent of any kind, and for any small cent at auction.

Found in a mint-sewn bag among normal, zinc-coated steel 1943-S cents, this record-setting coin also has been the center of controversy. According to a previous owner, Steve Benson of Fullerton, California, the coin had been cleaned—a fact that was not disclosed in the Goldberg sale catalog description. Benson claimed he had purchased the cent as an AU-58 specimen only to discover that another grading service would not certify the coin because it had been cleaned. Ira and Larry Goldberg fault Benson for the catalog omission; Benson previously had consigned the coin to Superior's June 2-3, 1997, auction without disclosing the coin's true condition.

CurrencyAuction.com, an affiliate

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Sales will be held on the 15th and 30th of each month. During an introductory period, visitors who register to bid on CurrencyAuction.com will be entered to win a free, Crisp Uncirculated Series 1899 silver certificate valued at more than \$225.

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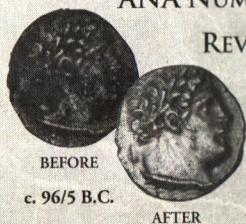
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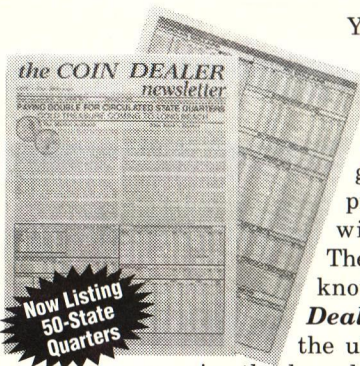


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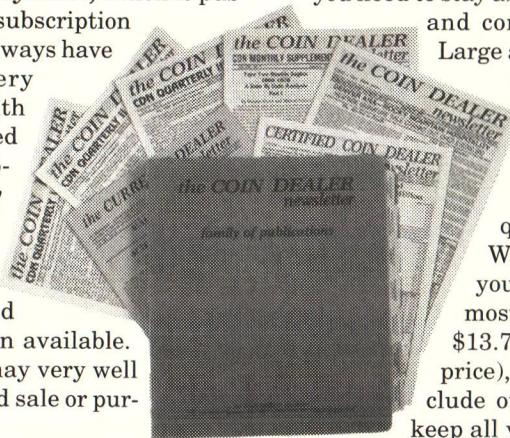
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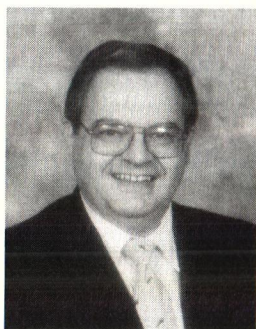
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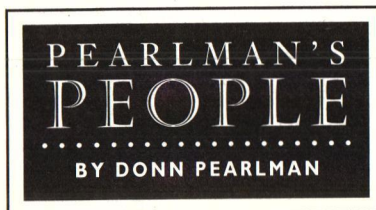
OH, PITY THE poor bankers. They've been crying to their congressional representatives, sobbing "anti-trust" and "unfair business practices," because they couldn't get enough Sacagawea "golden dollars" to meet initial customer demand. They're complaining because Wal-Mart and Sam's Club obtained 100 million coins first, and General Mills got tons for its successful Cheerios® promotion. The coins hit the breakfast tables before the tellers' windows. Boo-hoo for the bankers.

Well, wake up and smell the canvas coin bags. Most bankers have only themselves to blame.

These frustrated financial institution executives collectively thumbed their noses last summer at U.S. Mint Director Philip N. Diehl when he cordially offered them an opportunity to be the first kids on their blocks with the coins. Long before the Sacagawea dollars entered circulation, Diehl encouraged banks to get on board the anticipated bandwagon. But many short-sighted bankers ignored his invitation (they probably were too busy developing more customer service charges). So, when the Mint wisely pursued modern, mass-marketing techniques to promote the coin through an influential retail chain and a well-known cereal, bankers were caught a day late and a golden dollar short.

Not all bankers are guilty of failing to join "Uncle Sam's Club." About 2,600 financial institutions accepted the Mint's offer of free promotional materials for use in educating bank employees and customers about the new coins. Despite some

bankers' bellyaching, Diehl is absolutely correct when he said that "in the first week of the golden dol-



lar's release, it is clear that we have exceeded all expectations for the coin's acceptance by the public."

Still need a Sacagawea for your collection? The Mint will make about a billion of them this year. They'll be plenty available, just wait. Want instant gratification? Go buy one from a dealer. Maybe get two. Give one to your favorite banker.

LESSONS OF LIFE: Every few months, reporters specializing in family finance seek information for stories on how to teach children about money. After years of thoughtful consideration, here's the best lesson anyone can teach a child about money: Learn the difference between MS-64 and -65. It will save or make you thousands of dollars, kids.

I'VE GOT A SECRET: There's an old expression, "There is no Santa Claus in numismatics," a phrase akin to "buyer beware." There's another adage, "There are no secrets in numismatics," a reference to the marketplace's fertile grapevine. There used to be three, sure-fire methods of spreading a rumor in the hobby: telephone, teletype and tell a coin dealer. But it's no longer an axiom

that you can't keep anything secret in the rare coin profession.

The biggest deal in numismatics, the purchase of more than \$100 million worth of fabulous S.S. *Central America* gold by a group headed by Dwight Manley and John Albanese, was kept under wraps for well over a year during complex negotiations. Even I was surprised to learn about the deal, and I'm usually plugged in to numismatic gossip. Or, at least its source.

DOES IT MAKE CENTS? Anthony Terranova recently set a record when he bought a 1943-S bronze cent at auction for \$115,000. If he had raised his winning bid by a mere \$385,000, the coin would have sold for a half-million dollars. Then last year's erroneous news media reports of \$500,000 1943 bronze pennies would finally be accurate.

THE CENT STOPS HERE: According to *Chicago Tribune* staff writer Judy Hevrdejs, "On an average day, 800,000 pennies are tossed into toll-booth baskets on Illinois tollways." Is anyone checking 'em for '43 copper cents?

COME CLEAN NOW: This summer's ANA World's Fair of Money® in Philadelphia will include a bourse floor exhibit of the U.S. Mint's first steam press. Will the ANA offer full dry-cleaning services or only trouser and skirt pressing during the show? •

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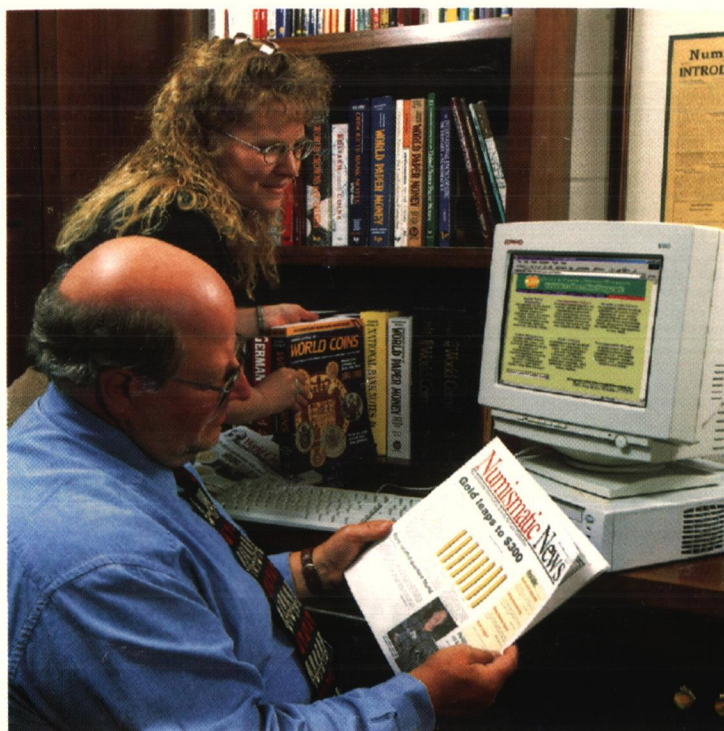
Abbotts Corporation	449
A-Mark	415
American Heritage Minting	400, 418
ANA Advertising	453
ANA Change of Address Form	455
ANA Conventions	447
ANA Museum	456
ANA National Coin Week	374
ANAAB Forms	445, 446
Appel, Richard	433
Avena Rare Coin	462
Bank of Canada Currency Museum	422
Berk, Harlan J., Ltd.	449
Beymer, Jack H.	439
Bourne, Remy	416
Bowers & Merena, Inc.	
Bullowa, C.E.	449
Butternut	418
C.T. Coins	451
California Numismatic Investments, Inc.	451
Canadian Numismatic Association	458
Capital Plastics	439
Classical Numismatic Group	409
Cohen, James H. & Sons, Inc.	452
<i>Coin Dealer Newsletter</i>	457
Coin Galleries	360
<i>Coin World</i>	368
Collectors' Showcase	455
Colony Coin Co.	451
Delaware Valley Rare Coin Co.	462
E & T Kointainers	414
Eagle Eye Rare Coins	412
Early American Numismatics	411
Excelsior Coin Gallery	422
Follett, Mike, Rare Coin Co.	372
Forman & Bauer, Inc.	449
Froseth, K.M.	456

Geiger, M.	453
Giessener Münzhandlung	406
Gillio, Ronald J., Inc.	418
Goldberg, Ira & Larry, Coins & Collectibles, Inc.	391
Golden Eagle Coin Exchange	436
Great Lakes Coin Co.	449
Hall, David, Rare Coins & Collectibles	444
Hamrick, John B. & Co.	430
Hanks & Associates, Inc.	449
Heritage Rare Coin Galleries	363
Huston, Stephen M.	458
Irvine Gold Mine	372
J & M Numismatic Investments	403
James & Sons, Ltd.	449
Kagin, A.M.	421
Kagin's	412
Karp, Jules	440
Kern, Jonathan K.	365
Keystone Coin & Stamp Exchange	442
Kolbe, George Frederick	432
Krause Publications	OBC
Leidman, Julian	455
Leu Numismatics	370
Levin, Benjamin	452
Littleton Coin Co.	406
London Coin Galleries	449
Long Beach Coin & Collectibles Expo	377
M & M World Travel Service	427
Main Line Coin & Stamp, Inc.	452
Marc One Numismatics, Inc.	462
Miller's Mint	435
Minneapolis Gold, Silver and Numismatic Services (Gary Adkins)	368
Minshull, Lee	444
Mish International Monetary, Inc.	453
Monex Rare Coins	436
Morycz, Stanley	456
Mountain High Coins—"1841"	440
Münzen und Medaillen AG	442
National Gold Exchange, Inc.	356
Northeast Numismatics	460
Numismatic Arts of Santa Fe	452

Numismatic Emporium, Inc.	422
Numismatic Guaranty Corp.	361, 395
Numismatic Guaranty Corp. (Grading Submission Form)	378, 379
Numismatik Lanz München	449
PCI	461
Pacific Atlantic Coin Co.	436
Pinnacle Rarities	414
Plaza Stamp & Coin	438
Pobjoy Mint	398
Ponterio & Associates, Inc.	376
Presidential Coin & Antique Co., Inc.	452
Professional Coin Grading Service	401
Professional Numismatists Guild	411
Rarcoa	427
Rare Coin Investments of Ramsey	449
Rosenblum, William M., Rare Coins	449
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Sahara Coins	404
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Silver Towne	460
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Steinmetz Coins and Currency	453
Stephens, Karl	452
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Summit Rare Coins	432
Superior Galleries	373
Swiatek-Minerva Coins & Jewelry Ltd.	459
Swiss Bank Corp.	366
Tangible Asset Galleries	441
Teaparty, J.J.	376
Teletrade	416
Teller, M. Louis	452
Texas Numismatic Investments, Inc.	428
U.S. Coins	442
Weinberg, Fred	430
Weitz, Harold B., Inc.	430
White, Harlan	403
Whitlow Ltd.	407
Whitman Coin Products	386
Williams Gallery, Inc.	359

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